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2022 - 2023

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MIDLAND PRIDE

*A Publication of the
Rochelle Park School District*



Message from the Superintendent, Dr. Sue DeNobile

I proudly introduce this new publication, **Midland Pride**, where information is shared about the many wonderful happenings of the school district. An edition of Midland Pride will be shared with you each calendar season.

In September the school's doors opened in a most refreshing way, no longer under the Covid-19 Pandemic restrictions. The students, faculty, staff, and administration have been embracing every aspect of this return to usual learning. We are off to a great start and expect to continue to build upward for every student.

On behalf of the Board of Education, administration, faculty and staff, we thank all the students and parents/guardians for their commitment to support the many and varied efforts needed during the hardships education has faced. We are resilient and determined to maintain our efforts to move forward together. The district has been most diligent in our efforts to design and implement instructional programs, school services, and upgrade facilities to support student growth and maximize every child's potential.

As first marking period nears a close, we are reminded that the fall season is often a time to express thanks and gratitude. Please take time to share with others what you are grateful and thankful for. I proudly share with you my gratitude for this amazing school community where children come first!



- ★ **Wellness Activities:** boosting mental health and contributing to success
- ★ **SRO (School Resource Officer):** enhancing safety and security
- ★ **Multi-use Courts:** increasing physical health through recess and physical education outdoors.
- ★ **Parking Lot:** upgrades for safer access to drop off, traffic flow & parking
- ★ **Readers & Writers Workshop:** increasing students' academic growth
- ★ **STEAM Room:** developing students' learning & skills in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math
- ★ **Outdoor Pavilion:** (coming soon) providing outdoor learning space and comfort areas
- ★ **SEPAG:** What's this? See page 4

It's creepy and it's kooky, mysterious and spooky, it's all together ooky, it's Midland Halloween!

Midland School celebrated Halloween with some traditions new and old. The afternoon kicked off with our annual Halloween parade.

This year's parade featured live music from our award winning TAG band.

Following the parade, students from grades 6-8 visited our Pre K-5 classrooms to create festive Halloween crafts!



NEW Recess Area Opens!

All students in grades Pre K-8 have been enjoying our new Recess Area as we have officially opened our playground and multi-use courts. Students were excited shooting hoops on our new courts while some enjoyed our playground obstacles and slides. We look forward to introducing pickleball and four square next.



Principal's Page

Mr. Michael Alberta, Principal



Midland School Basketball Tips Off!

Midland School will be starting up the 2022-2023 basketball season soon! Our boys and girls teams will be taking on neighboring towns during interscholastic play as well as entering into a holiday tournament. We are excited to see our Midland School Lions and Lady Lions compete!

2022

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9
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16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28	27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30
30 31			
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5 6
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29 30 31
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3	1	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28 29 30	25 26 27 28 29 30 31
	30 31		

Midland School Calendar Reminders...

November 10th and 11th – School Closed for NJEA Conference

November 21st and 22nd – Parent Teacher Conferences ½ day schedule for all students (**remember no After Care**)

November 23rd – ½ day schedule for all students and staff (**remember no After Care**)

November 24th and 25th – School Closed - Happy Thanksgiving

Remember to check the school calendar on our website for other important Midland activities www.rochellepark.org

Spotlight on Curriculum

Mrs. Cara Hurd
 Director of Curriculum
churd@rochellepark.org



NJSLA Spring 2022

Last month at the Board of Education meeting, the NJ Department of Education Spring 2022 Assessment Testing Report was presented. Some highlights from the presentation include:

- ✓ A detailed comparison of Rochelle Park's proficiency percentages to the state's percentages
- ✓ Rochelle Park student performance is on par with state averages, exceeding in some areas
- ✓ 91% proficiency on the Algebra 1 Assessment
- ✓ Extended School Day Program - Winter 2023
- ✓ Summer Transition Program 2023
- ✓ Data Teams



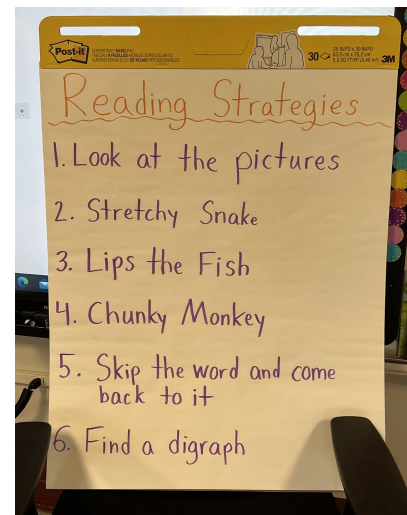
Rochelle Park's teachers and students are commended on their achievement !

To access the full State Testing Report presentation, click [here](#)

Balanced Literacy

The district is continuing to implement Balanced Literacy in English Language Arts (ELA) by incorporating the Reader's and Writer's Workshop models of teaching into the classrooms. The Reader's and Writer's Workshop focuses on teaching and strengthening skills and strategies for students to become independent learners. The components of the workshop model consist of the following:

- ✓ Mini-Lessons on a Skill/Strategy (in Reading and Writing)
- ✓ Independent Reading to help build stamina and practice mini-lesson
- ✓ Independent Writing to practice a skill or accomplish a certain task
- ✓ Conferencing (teacher-student)
- ✓ Sharing Student Work



Teachers have been working with Mrs. Brianne Annitti, a Literacy Coach from Gravity Goldberg since September 2021. Mrs. Annitti visits Midland School and supports the teachers with hands-on learning experiences, modeling of mini-lessons and/or conferencing strategies, individual coaching sessions, and reflection/debriefing. ***Our students are becoming stronger readers and writers!***



Education is Special !

Mrs. Rebecca Garcia ~Supervisor of Special Education

What is a SEPAG?

Is your child a different learner?

Does he or she have an IEP, a 504, or receive other special services through the special education department?

If so, then we are delighted to invite you to become more active in your child's education. We are looking for ways to involve parents as much as possible in the life of the school. A Special Education Parent Advisory Group is being established. The SEPAG will give parents the opportunity to provide input and advice to the school regarding matters pertaining to differently abled students.

**We invite you to join our
Special Education Parent Advisory Group!**

Midland's first SEPAG meeting will be held on November 29, 2022 at 6:00 pm in the Cafeteria. All are welcome to attend.



November 29th @ 6:00pm
SEPAG meeting
Midland School Cafeteria

November 17th @ 6:30pm
Bergen County Technical
Schools-Paramus Campus
Open House

December 2nd
National Special Education
Day

Window into Wellness

Vanessa Aiello, Wellness Coordinator
vaiello@rochellepark.org

The Wellness office has had a busy start to the school year! Our first event of the year was Family BINGO night. Students and families enjoyed lots of laughs, prizes and time together! Parents provided a lot of positive feedback and are looking forward to more events in the spring!



Building on the theme of Gratitude, which has been the topic of classroom lessons this month, our students and staff members are collecting Halloween candy to send to our Troops!



Plans are well underway for many exciting activities, such as Family Wellness Day, Middle School Wellness Day, Family Spring Jam and some amazing school assemblies!





Midland SRO HIGHLIGHTS

D/Sgt. Chris Bermudez - SRO

Midland School SRO Det. Sgt. Chris Bermudez has made an immediate impact on our Midland School Students.

(Above) D/Sgt. Bermudez reading a story to students in grade 1 during School Violence Awareness Week.



(Right) D/Sgt. Bermudez presented lessons on Halloween Safety and provided goodie bags to students compliments of the Rochelle Park Municipal Alliance.

News from the Business Office

Mrs. Cheryl Jiosi
Business Administrator

Food Service – All you need to know about school lunches

What comes with my School Lunch?

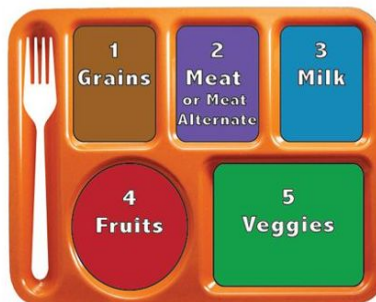
Each meal comes with five components: the entrée (protein/grain), vegetable, fruit and milk. The lunch meal is priced as a unit. Students choose a fruit or vegetable and two, three, or four components to complete their meal selection.

We encourage your child to select all five meal components for an appealing and satisfying lunch.

Additional entrees, water, other beverages and smart snack options are available for purchase separate from the school lunch.

OFFER vs SERVE The Five Meal Components for School Lunch

Choose **at least 3** including:



- ½ Cup of **Fruits** or **Vegetables**
- **At Least 2 Other Food Groups**

For best nutrition, **choose all 5**

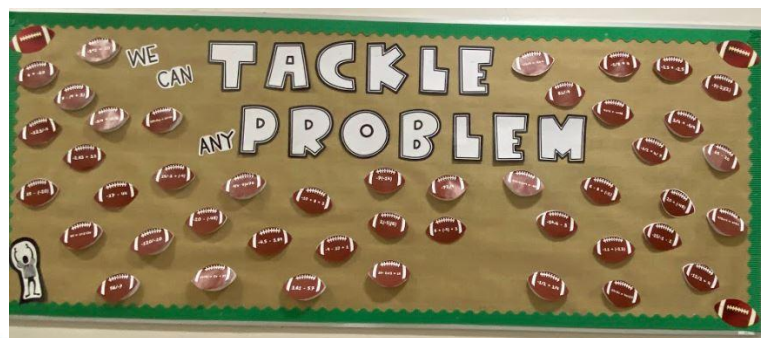
Georgia School Nutrition Program

*In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the bases of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination write: USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

How can I see what lunch options are available?
The monthly Food Service menu can be found on our district website or by clicking [here!](#)

More Midland Pride Around Our School

Check out our creative bulletin boards featuring the hard work of our students and teachers!



ADMINISTRATION

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sdenobile@rochellepark.org

Business Administrator/Board

Secretary: Mrs. Cheryl Jiosi

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Director of Curriculum &

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Principal: Mr. Michael Alberta

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