



## **Rye City School District**

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Frank R. Alvarez, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

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May 9, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians of RCSD Students:

This is a time when the issue of teen alcohol and substance use is of utmost concern, in Rye and across the country. We must work together to examine what is happening and to develop strategies to best help our children. Each sector of the community, including the schools, has a role to play in that effort.

I want to share with you that there is a great deal of reflection going on in the District in this area. We are reviewing the drug and alcohol education programs we have in place currently, and we are looking at those offered nationally and at local public and private schools. We are engaging in thoughtful, open conversations with all members of the school community and welcome the many perspectives and ideas people are sharing to help us examine our current practices and what we could do to improve them.

The RCSD actively participates in Rye-ACT, the Rye Action for Children and Teens Drug and Alcohol Coalition. We are fortunate to have Rye High School Social Worker Sandy Degenhardt, Rye Middle School Social Worker Peter Green and Director of Health Tracey Barnett representing the District in the Coalition. There is a tremendous support system in our schools available to students and families. For ready access, I'm including the individual names and contact information for the network of people available to provide assistance.

I encourage you to join us on Tuesday, May 24, at 7:00 p.m., for the Rye-ACT Coalition Town Hall meeting at the Resurrection Church Auditorium (the former Methodist Church). The Town Hall will provide an opportunity for community members to hear the results from the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) survey administered to Rye Middle and High School students in November 2014 and to engage in open dialog with one another and with members of the coalition around this issue. I urge you to join us for this important discussion.

Last Monday afternoon, we shared the OASAS survey results with Middle and High School faculty. High School teachers have expressed interest in using the survey data to supplement conversations already taking place about drug and alcohol use in health classes and as a meaningful, real-life example for data analysis in statistics classes.

I hope you will join me at the Rye-ACT Coalition Town Hall meeting on May 24th as we continue this important community conversation.

Sincerely,



Frank Alvarez  
Superintendent

### **RCSD Student Resource Professionals**

Dial the RCSD Main Number 914-967-6100, followed by the extension below

#### **RHS**

RHS Principal Pat Taylor ext. 1908 [taylor.patricia@ryeschools.org](mailto:taylor.patricia@ryeschools.org)

RHS Assistant Principal Robert Zegarelli ext. 1918 [zegarelli.robert@ryeschools.org](mailto:zegarelli.robert@ryeschools.org)

RHS Assistant Principal Suzanne Short ext. 1948 [short.suzanne@ryeschools.org](mailto:short.suzanne@ryeschools.org)

RHS Social Worker Sandy Degenhardt ext. 1269 [degenhardt.sandy@ryeschools.org](mailto:degenhardt.sandy@ryeschools.org)

RHS School Psychologists:

Dr. Marisa Cuomo ext. 1214 [cuomo.marisa@ryeschools.org](mailto:cuomo.marisa@ryeschools.org)

Dr. Rob Schechter ext. 1216 [schechter.robert@ryeschools.org](mailto:schechter.robert@ryeschools.org)

RHS Guidance Counselors:

James O'Hara ext. 1226 [ohara.james@ryeschools.org](mailto:ohara.james@ryeschools.org)

Jaime Condon ext. 1942 [condon.jaime@ryeschools.org](mailto:condon.jaime@ryeschools.org)

Susan Dickson ext. 1945 [dickson.susan@ryeschools.org](mailto:dickson.susan@ryeschools.org)

Barbara Finder ext. 1943 [finder.barbara@ryeschools.org](mailto:finder.barbara@ryeschools.org)

Jennifer Magner ext. 1944 [magner.jennifer@ryeschools.org](mailto:magner.jennifer@ryeschools.org)

Garrett Renner x. 1911 [renner.garrett@ryeschools.org](mailto:renner.garrett@ryeschools.org)

Director of Health Tracey Barnett ext. 1931 [barnett.tracey@ryeschools.org](mailto:barnett.tracey@ryeschools.org)

RHS Health Teachers:

Robyn Kaminer [kaminer.robyn@ryeschools.org](mailto:kaminer.robyn@ryeschools.org)

Ron Guzinski [guzinski.ron@ryeschools.org](mailto:guzinski.ron@ryeschools.org)

RHS Rye Youth Council Youth Advocate Casey DeCola ext. 1204 [decola.casey@ryeschools.org](mailto:decola.casey@ryeschools.org) or at Rye Youth Council 914-967-3838

### **RMS**

RMS Principal Dr. Ann Edwards ext. 2908 [edwards.ann@ryeschools.org](mailto:edwards.ann@ryeschools.org)

RMS Assistant Principal Joseph Di Giovanni ext. 2918 [digiovanni@ryeschools.org](mailto:digiovanni@ryeschools.org)

RMS School Psychologist Dr. Talia Hindin ext. 2955 [hindin.talia@ryeschools.org](mailto:hindin.talia@ryeschools.org)

RMS Guidance Counselors:

Vanessa Caine (6th grade) ext. 2941 [caine.vanessa@ryeschools.org](mailto:caine.vanessa@ryeschools.org)

Dina Farewell (7th grade) ext. 2944 [farewell.tina@ryeschools.org](mailto:farewell.tina@ryeschools.org)

Robert Villanova (8th grade) ext. 2942 [villanova.robert@ryeschools.org](mailto:villanova.robert@ryeschools.org)

RMS Health Teacher Tim Tolve ext. 7677 [tolve.tim@ryeschools.org](mailto:tolve.tim@ryeschools.org)

RMS Student Intervention Counselor Peter Green ext. 2212 [green.peter@ryeschools.org](mailto:green.peter@ryeschools.org)

RMS Rye Youth Council Youth Advocate Casey DeCola ext. 1204 [decola.casey@ryeschools.org](mailto:decola.casey@ryeschools.org) or at Rye Youth Council 914-967-3838

### **Midland School**

Principal Jim Boylan ext. 4908 [boylan.james@ryeschools.org](mailto:boylan.james@ryeschools.org)

Assistant Principal Joanna Napolitano ext. 4201 [napolitano.joanna@ryeschools.org](mailto:napolitano.joanna@ryeschools.org)

School Psychologist Dr. Anat Mor ext. 4202 [mor.anat@ryeschools.org](mailto:mor.anat@ryeschools.org)

### **Milton School**

Principal Dr. JoAnne Nardone ext. 3908 [nardone.joanne@ryeschools.org](mailto:nardone.joanne@ryeschools.org)

School Psychologist Nicole Ippolito ext. 3244 [ippolito.nicole@ryeschools.org](mailto:ippolito.nicole@ryeschools.org)

**Osborn School**

Principal Angela Garcia ext. 5908 [garcia.angela@ryeschools.org](mailto:garcia.angela@ryeschools.org)

Assistant Principal Torrance Walley ext. 5903 [walley.torrance@ryeschools.org](mailto:walley.torrance@ryeschools.org)

School Psychologist Dr. Jennifer Nielsen ext. 5294 [nielsen.jennifer@ryeschools.org](mailto:nielsen.jennifer@ryeschools.org)

**For all three elementary schools**

Rye Youth Council Elementary School Advocate Kristen Salov 914-967-3838 [ksalov@ryeyouthcouncil.org](mailto:ksalov@ryeyouthcouncil.org)