

C☀METales



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

A Message to the Class of 2008

Recently I overheard a mother and daughter in their last moments together at the airport. They had announced the departure. Standing near the security gate, they hugged and the mother said, "I love you and I wish you enough".

The daughter replied, "Mom, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Mom".

They kissed and the daughter left. The mother walked over to the window where I was seated. Standing there I could see she wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on her privacy but she welcomed me in by asking, "Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?" Yes, I have," I replied. "Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever good-bye?"

"I am old and she lives so far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is - the next trip back will be for my funeral," she said.

"When you were saying good-bye, I heard you say, 'I wish you enough'. May I ask what that means?"

She began to smile. "That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone". She paused a moment and looked up as if trying to remember it in detail and she smiled even more. "When we said, 'I wish you enough', we were wanting the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them". Then turning toward me, she shared the following as if she were reciting it from memory

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright no matter how gray the day may appear.
I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun even more.
I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive and everlasting.
I wish you enough pain so that even the smallest of joys in life may appear bigger.
I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting.
I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess
I wish you enough hellos to get you through the final good-bye.

She then began to cry and walked away.

They say it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them but then an entire life to forget them.

Class of 2008, RCHS is very proud of your many academic, artistic, musical, dramatic and athletic accomplishments. Personally, I wish you "enough" and I especially wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors. You have been a class with a lot of "class" and I will never forget you.

Sincerely,

Eric Bernstein, Principal

LOOKING AHEAD...**Important Dates and Info to Remember****Monday, May 19**

Senior Slide Show at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 20

Academic Awards Night at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, May 23

Graduation Practice at 9:00 a.m. in the gym.

Sunday, May 25**GRADUATION at 2:00 p.m.!!!!****Monday, May 26**

Memorial Day...NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, May 28

Term 4 Review Day

Thursday, May 29

Term 4 Exams Blocks 2 & 4

Friday, May 30

Term 4 Exams Blocks 1 & 3

Monday, June 2**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!!!!**

Enjoy Your



Vacation

INFORMATION for GRADUATES



Senior Fines:

Please be sure to pay all fines by May 16.

Senior Lockers:

Please make sure ALL ITEMS are out of your locker by May 16.
Items left after May 16 will be discarded.

Senior Slideshow:

Will be on Monday, May 19, at 7:30 p.m.

Graduation Practice (MANDATORY if you plan on going through the ceremony):

Students must park in the Senior parking lot on the day of practice.
Report to the gym at 9 a.m. on Friday, May 23.

Graduation Day: (*Graduation will be held inside this year.*)

The front doors, for family and guests, will be open at 1 p.m.

**Graduates must be in the hallway of the 100 rooms (Driver, Ed/Health)
NO LATER THAN 1:15 P.M., Sunday, May 25.**

Graduates should wear dress slacks (dresses for girls), collared shirts (ties are preferred) and dress shoes. **ABSOLUTELY NO JEANS, T-SHIRTS, SHORTS, TENNIS SHOES, FLIP FLOPS, etc.**

Parking:

The North lot (across from Dairy Queen) is for the high school graduation.
Additional parking will be available in the South lot (next to the Ad. Center)

Seating:

There will be NO RESERVED SEATING for graduation.

If special arrangements are necessary [wheelchair/etc.], please inform the Main Office ASAP so attempts can be made to accommodate your needs.

*Remember, Graduation is a Ceremony.
Please show respect by using appropriate behavior.*

Best of Luck, CLASS OF 2008!

MEMORABLE MATH MOMENTS



Math Team Wins JJC Invitational

On March 19, 2008 the RCCHS Math Team won the Joliet Junior College Invitational Math Contest Division AA Title. The contest was extremely close with four schools finishing within 17 total points. Reed-Custer took home first place awards in three of the fifteen topics and second place awards in three others scoring a total of 270 points. Plainfield North was second with 267, Morris was third with 266, and Coal City was fourth with 253. Other schools competing in Division AA were Providence, Joliet Township, and Minooka.

Winning first place awards for the Comets were: **Jon Sadler***, **Steve Ragain***, **Nicole Novy**, **Allison Marshall**, **Ashley Sadler**, and **Emily Becker** in Circles, **Kori Klover**, **Kayla Richmond**, **Mike Baker**, **Ali Wenckowski**, **Ed Keenan**, and **Brent Sumner** in Systems of Linear Equations, and **Ryan Price**, **Brandi Rienbacher**, **Adam Swanson**, **Jon Sadler**, **Bryan Thompson**, and **Allison Marshall** in Polar Coordinates.

Placing second for Reed-Custer were: **Kori Klover***, **Kayla Richmond***, **Mike Baker***, **Brent Sumner**, **Ed Keenan**, and **Ali Wenckowski** in Quadratic Functions, **Steve Brice***, **Katrina Kryzaniak**, **Megan Smith**, **Jale Willis**, **Melanie Mitchell**, **Sarah Maze** in Factoring Polynomials, and oral presenter **Bryan Thompson** and assistant **Steph Franz** in Infinite Series. Also contributing for the Calculating Comets were **Steph Stiles**, **Ellyn Vanderhyden**, **Tony Fracaro**, **Katelyn Norris**, and **Luke Vandermyde**.



THE CALCULATING COMETS ARE BIG WINNERS

RCHS Freshman-Sophomore Two-Person Team Wins State

Jon Sadler and **Steve Ragain** of the Reed-Custer High School Math Team are the 2008 Division 2A champions in the Freshman-Sophomore Two-Person competition. The second place team in that competition was from University of Chicago Lab School.

The Calculator Team of **Adam Swanson**, **Ryan Price**, **Ed Keenan**, **Jon Sadler**, and **Tony Fracaro** placed fifth. Oral Presenter **Adam Swanson** and assistant **Ryan Price** won the eighth place award in Fair Division.



The contest was held on the campus of the University of Illinois in Urbana on Saturday, April 26, 2008.



Senior Mathletes relax between competitions at the State Finals while sporting their Prom Do's!

L to R:
Brandi Reinbacher,
Steph Franz,
Sarah Brummerstedt,
Steph Stiles and
Ellyn Vanderhyden.

I-8 ART WINNERS

For the eighteenth consecutive year, Reed-Custer art students have won the All-Conference Art Portfolio Award! Please congratulate **Marisol Arreola** and **Christina Termain** for winning the award this year!! The top 18 art students from all over the Interstate Eight competed in the competition. Students were judged by all of the I-8 art teachers. Marisol plans to major in Art Education and Christina plans to major in Elementary Education.



WYSE Guys Compete at State; Jon Sadler is State Champ!



The Reed-Custer High School WYSE (World Wide Youth in Science and Engineering) team competed at the state competition on April 15th at the University of Illinois in Champaign. Each member of the team took two tests each from seven different academic areas: Chemistry, Biology, Engineering Graphics, Computer Sciences, Math, Physics, and English. The top two scores in each area are then tallied for the team results. The RCHS team placed 14th out of the 23 teams which qualified for state competition.

Jon Sadler, a Sophomore at RCHS, was a State Champion in Engineering Graphics while Adam Swanson placed 7th in Computer Sciences and Ryan Price was 7th in Physics!!! The team had a wonderful season placing 1st in Regional competition and 3rd in Sectional competition.



Photo: Members of the RCHS WYSE team are **Christine Janak, Taylor Murphy, Allison Marshall, Ashley Potempa, Adam Swanson, Caitlyn Murphy, Bryan Thompson, Jackie Staszak, Ryan Price, Stephen Ragain, Ellyn Vanderhyden, Jon Sadler, Ed Keenan, Mike Lovino.**

FAMILY and CONSUMER SCIENCES

RCHS FCCLA Members Bring Home Gold and Silver from State Conference

The annual Family, Career and Community Leaders of America State Leadership Conference was held April 10-12 at the Prairie Capitol Convention Center, President Abraham Lincoln and Hilton Hotels. Over 1,700 members, advisors and guests attended. The theme of the conference was "FCCLA- the Ultimate Survivor".

Six Reed-Custer students attended and also qualified to compete in various state proficiency and national STAR (Students Taking Action for Recognition) events. One individual and one team received GOLD ratings. Junior, **Brandie Ledoux**, earned a first place gold rating for Food Production: Relish Tray and freshman team members, **Marilyn Novy** and **Brianna Willis** received a first place gold rating for their Fashion Apparel Display project. One individual and one team also earned SILVER ratings including freshman, **Katrina Kryzaniak** for Apparel and Construction and sophomore team **Emily Becker** and **Ashley Sadler** for STAR event Interior Design.

The six students along with their FCCLA advisors, Melinda Hogan and Jewelann Grace also participated in general sessions, workshops, and voting delegate experiences on Friday, April 11. On Thursday, April 10, students and advisors visited their local state representative, Representative Careen Gordon at the state capitol and enjoyed being introduced as visitors in attendance at the Senate chambers by Senator A.J. Wilhelmi of Joliet.

At the conclusion of the conference, awards were presented to the event participants on Saturday, April 11 and delegates for the National Leadership Meeting in Orlando, Florida were announced. The newly



elected state officers were installed and the conference adjourned Saturday morning. Congratulations to the RCHS members and their success in their various competitive events.

Standing left to right: **Ashley Sadler**, **Emily Becker**, **Katrina Kryzaniak**, **Marilyn Novy**, **Brianna Willis** and **Brandie Ledoux**. The girls

brought home gold and silver medallions for their various projects.

COMET SPORTS

BOYS BASKETBALL Important Dates



R-C BKB Camps...June 3-6
 R-C F/S Shootout...June 7
 Plainfield South Shootout...June 14-15
 Braidwood Varsity Shootout...June 27-28



The Boys and Girls Track & Field teams have enjoyed a successful spring in 2008, both indoors and out. There have been many personal records broken, as well as four school records.

Mike Redmann's discus throw of 151' 0" at Dwight on April 29 was new school record. It was the second time in 5 days that Mike has broken it. **Jerilyn Mandac** broke the school record in the 200, with a time of 26.21 at the Manteno Invite on April 18. The boys 3200 relay team of **Aaron Post, Zach Sadler, Mike Lovino, and Judah Wessman** broke the 20 year old school record with a time of 8:50.06 at the Dwight meet on Tuesday, April 29. At our March 22 indoor meet, **Mike Eller** broke the school record in the pole vault with a clearing of 15' 1".

The girls have won the R-C Indoor Invite, the Seneca Invite, placed second at the Comet Classic, and third at the Manteno Invite. The Varsity girls defended their I-8 Conference Championship on May 1st, by defeating their nearest competitor, Sandwich, by 17.5 points.

The boys have placed second at the R-C Indoor Invite, the Seneca Invite, fourth at the Manteno Invite and Comet Classic, and recently, the Frosh/Soph boys team was crowned I-8 Conference Champions!

With these accomplishments under their belts, the Comets look forward to the rest of the season, with hopefully more successes to come.

STUDENTS LEARN THROUGH L.E.E.P.

The Life & Employment Education Program (L.E.E.P.) would like to say thank you to those employers who have been instrumental in assisting with the life skills vocational program at Reed-Custer High School.

Robert VanDolson has been employed at the Godley Park District all year.

Patricia Yarbrough has worked in the RCMS library with Mrs. Welsh and is currently working at Shepherd's Flock Preschool during term 4 of this school year.

Zachary Zakarian has been employed by Jim Mark to do landscaping work in the area both in the fall and the spring.

Job shadowing experiences have also taken place at various community sites within the last year as well. This is an opportunity for students to shadow employees to see what a particular job is like.

Students have also job shadowed at Ace Hardware in Braidwood, Fossil Ridge Library, The Barkery in Wilmington, and at the Reed-Custer Middle School library.



Patricia Yarbrough prepares snacks at Shepherd's Flock PreSchool.



Princess appreciates the great care Rob VanDolson gives her at the Godley Park District.

GOOD NEWS from GUIDANCE

The month of May signals an important time for parents and students to be aware of the following:

SENIORS: Are your plans for the end of the year finalized?

JUNIORS, SOPHOMORES, and FRESHMEN: In early June, you will be mailed a copy of your final course selections for next year. If we do not hear from your parents, we will assume they have given their approval of your selections. At this point, course selections will then be finalized.

Schedules will be distributed during registration in August.

PLAN TEST RESULTS IN

Sophomores who recently took the PLAN test, your scores have arrived. Score reports will be distributed to students during lunch hours. Parents, please ask to see your students' score report.

FAREWELL

As you all are aware, Mrs. Karla Ingle is retiring at the end of this school year. The RCHS guidance office will miss her greatly. We wish Mrs. Ingle well on her retirement. Thank you for all of your years of dedication and hard work. Enjoy your retirement! You have earned it!



We have hired a new counselor, Jenifer Elliott. Mrs. Elliott has been working as an English teacher at Coal City High School and recently completed her guidance internship at Coal City High School.

Ms. Barber and Mrs. Elliott will be serving all of the students in the guidance office for the 2008-09 school year.

The Guidance Office will be closed for the summer. If you have any guidance concerns, transcript or record requests, please contact the RCHS main office. Ms. Barber and Mrs. Elliott will return to work on August 11th.

*Thank you for a great 2007-08 school year!
We look forward to seeing you in August!*