

TO: Eighth Grade Students and Parents
FROM: Mrs. Surprenant, Mrs. Jennette, and Mrs. Zolecki-Browning
RE: Eighth Grade End of the Year Activities and Information
DATE: January 20, 2012

PICTURES: H-R Imaging will be taking the 8th grade pictures this year. They will be taken in the RCMS gymnasium during the student's PE class. **The scheduled date is Wednesday, February 8, 2012.** Boys need to wear a dress shirt (short sleeves are OK) with a collar and a tie. Girls are requested to wear a dress or dress slacks and blouse. Students will be bringing home a proof sheet that needs to be returned to the school. There are several picture packet options that may be purchased. A check made out to **H-R Imaging** needs to accompany the order. **You are under no obligation to purchase these pictures, but you are responsible for the proofs until their return. Payment or return of the proofs must be by the date that is stamped on the envelope. PAYMENT AND/OR RETURN OF PROOFS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO YOUR CHILD'S PANTHER-TIME TEACHER.**

A \$15.00 charge is required for lost or late proofs.

Retakes are scheduled for Wednesday, February 15th. No retakes will be taken unless original proofs are returned.

GOWN ORDERS: All eighth grade students will be measured for their gowns during their science class the week of **February 1st**. The orders will then be sent to Jostens for processing. **The cost of the Gown Package is \$25.00.** Students will receive a gown and a commemorative ribbon for this price. **All students must pay this cost to RCMS with cash or check (*all checks must be made out to Reed-Custer Middle School*) by March 16, 2012. PAYMENT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO YOUR CHILD'S PANTHER-TIME TEACHER.**

EIGHTH GRADE CELEBRATION: Students will enjoy the **semi-formal** celebration in the Reed-Custer Middle School Commons from 6-9 P.M. on **Friday, May 4, 2012.** Parents should drop off students no earlier than 5:45 P.M. and be at the school to pick them up by 9:00 P.M. Cost is **\$4.00** for RCMS Eighth Grade students. Payment must be made by **March 16, 2012.**

PROMOTION SPEECH: Students who are interested in giving a speech at the promotion ceremony must attend the tryout on **Thursday, May 10, 2012.** Tryouts will be held in the gym after school. If you are interested, please see your Language Arts teacher for more specific information.

CLASS TRIP: The eighth grade class trip will consist of an all-day trip to Great America amusement park in Gurnee, Illinois. **The trip will be on Wednesday, May 16, 2012. The cost for each student will be \$55.00 to cover the cost of the bus, admission ticket, and lunch.** The picnic-style lunch consists of an "all-you-can-eat" buffet of fried chicken breasts and legs, hot dogs, potato salad, potato chips, dill pickle spears, frozen juice pops, and unlimited Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, and pink lemonade.

Students will be responsible for any souvenir money.

The busses will leave RCMS at 8:00 A.M. and return to the school by 8:00 P.M.

Please arrange to have transportation waiting in the front parking lot.

Students will be expected to follow all conduct rules outlined in the Student Handbook, those requested by chaperones (at least ten faculty members will be present on the trip), and those requested by the bus drivers. Any disciplinary problems with Great America will be handled by Great America authorities and the Gurnee Police Department.

The eighth grade class trip is a privilege earned by eighth grade students. A student who does not meet promotion requirements at the time of the trip will not be permitted to attend. The principal will make every effort to ensure that misbehavior by individuals does not ruin the trip for the entire group. Those eighth grade students who break critical rules during their eighth grade year (theft, fighting, gross insubordination, vandalism, smoking, chronic classroom disruptions or alcohol/drug possession or abuse) will lose the trip privilege.

A student who is assigned to an alternative site due to a behavioral issue, is prohibited from attending the eighth grade dinner dance and the eighth grade class trip. The Eighth Grade Class Trip is a traditional privilege earned by eighth graders eligible for promotion to high school. A student who does not meet promotion requirements at the time of the trip will not be permitted to attend. The Principal must make every effort to insure that misbehavior by individuals on the trip does not ruin the trip for the group. Those eighth graders who accumulate 6 Misconduct Detentions (of any length of time) or 1 Out-Of-School Suspension will lose the privilege of attending the eighth grade dinner dance and the eighth grade class trip. The principal/ assistant principal will have the final discretion of disqualification for the eighth grade dinner dance and the eighth grade class trip.

Each student must pay for the cost of his/her admission ticket with cash or a check made out to Reed-Custer Middle School by March 16, 2012. PAYMENT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO YOUR CHILD'S PANTHER-TIME TEACHER. Parents may write one check to cover the cost of the Great America trip, the gown, and the 8th grade celebration. Students who do not pay for their ticket by this date will have to buy a ticket at Great America on the day of the trip, at a cost of \$61.69 plus the additional cost of the bus and their meal. If there is a problem meeting this financial obligation, contact Mrs. Zolecki-Browning, Mrs. Jennette, or Mrs. Surprenant at the Middle School. Students must also complete and return the permission slip/health form attached to this packet by March 16, 2012. RETURN THE SIGNED PERMISSION/HEALTH FORM SLIPS TO YOUR CHILD'S PANTHER-TIME TEACHER. Make sure emergency phone numbers and medical information are included on the form.

ALL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS TO REED-CUSTER MIDDLE SCHOOL MUST BE PAID BEFORE A STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO GO ON THE TRIP!!!!

- gown fee
- Great America ticket
- 8th grade celebration
- pictures

- cafeteria charges
- fees (library, office, locker, PE lock, etc.)

8TH GRADE BREAKFAST AND PRACTICE: A mandatory practice for the Promotion Ceremony will be Thursday, May 17, 2012, at 8:00 A.M. A breakfast will also be held for all eighth graders participating in this ceremony. At this time an awards ceremony will also be held. Parents who wish to attend this ceremony should be at RCMS by 8:15 A.M. After this ceremony, all students will practice for the promotion. Eighth grade students will then be dismissed by 9:45 A.M. At this time all eighth grade students must provide their own transportation and leave the building and grounds.

PROMOTION CEREMONY: The Promotion Ceremony for Reed-Custer Middle School will take place on Thursday, May 17, 2012, at 7:00 P.M. The ceremony will take place in the Reed-Custer High School gymnasium. The dress code for boys is a dress shirt with a collar and a tie. Dress pants (no jeans) and dress shoes (no tennis shoes or sandals) are also required. The dress code for girls is a dress or dress slacks and blouse. Dress shoes (no tennis shoes or flip-flops) are also required. Further information will be forthcoming in the middle of the month of May.

HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION: Information regarding registration for Reed-Custer High School will be available soon. Counselors will be meeting with the 8th grade class during their Panther-Time within the next few weeks. A parent informational meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2012, in the Reed-Custer High School gym. High school counselors will be scheduling students during the school day on March 21st, 22nd, and 23rd in the Middle School office.

HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICALS: State law mandates all students have a physical before they enter high school. Your child's immunization record will be available to you at the time of your child's high school registration.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS: Eighth grade students will have the opportunity to run for the Reed-Custer High School Student Council. A President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary are elected by their peers. Also, two students are voted to be Class Representatives. These elections are held during the day. Information will be provided by the high school sponsors later in the school year.

DON'T FORGET

WHEN	HOW MUCH	WHAT
February 8, 2012	no cost	8th Grade Promotion Pictures (Dress Attire)
March 16, 2012	\$25.00	Gown Order
March 16, 2012	\$55.00	Great America Ticket
March 16, 2012	\$4.00	8th Grade Celebration
Refer to date stamped on picture envelope	Amount varies	Promotion pictures
May 10, 2012		Speech tryouts (after school)
May 17, 2012		Promotion Breakfast . Awards Ceremony 8:00 A.M.
May 17, 2012		Promotion Ceremony 7:00 P.M.

GREAT AMERICA PERMISSION SLIP

_____ has my permission to participate in the Reed-Custer Middle School Eighth Grade Class Trip to Great America Amusement Park in Gurnee, Illinois on Wednesday, May 16, 2012. My child and I understand that all students will be expected to ride to and from Great America on the charter busses. My child and I understand that students will be expected to follow all conduct rules in the Student Handbook, those requested by chaperones, and those requested by bus drivers. Any disciplinary problems with Great America will be handled by Great America authorities and the Gurnee Police Department. I understand the information on this form and do hereby grant my child permission to participate.

(Parent's Signature)

If your child will be carrying a cell phone during the day of the Great America trip, please include that phone number.

Please list two emergency phone numbers where you could be reached that day.

(number and location)

(number and location)

If your student has any specific health or medication issues of which we should be aware, please check the appropriate lines below and supply any necessary information regarding this issue.

_____ My student has a known condition and there are medical instructions and/or medication at school. Please follow those directions and use as indicated. This condition and/or medication include:

_____ My student has a known health condition and does not have current medication or medical device at school. I hereby give permission for the teacher to supervise the administration of one of the following medications and will send the medication along with my student.

_____ Inhaler

_____ Epi-Pen

_____ Ritalin/Adderall

_____ Glucometer/Snacks

_____ Nebulizer and equipment

_____ Other _____

Nurse's Notes: _____