Dear Members of the Rome Community:

On behalf of the Rome City School District team and the Board of Education, welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! As a school community, it is our goal that the coming school year provides our children with a thirst for knowledge acquisition, an enthusiasm for learning, and a love of our community. Within each building, our students have opportunities to engage in quality instruction, expand their minds in a fashion unlike many other locations, and experience diversity in a manner that truly grows a well-rounded citizen and social skills. Our team of talented adults are among the most dedicated and hardworking individuals in the field today. We will provide the children of today with the skills, knowledge, and desire to be the world leaders of tomorrow while providing a progressive and aggressive approach to learning.

This year, we continue the implementation of new instructional elements under the Federal Government’s Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Our 1:1 technology integration continues to grow, along with improvements to our technological infrastructure in all buildings. In the coming months, our community will embark on a capital improvement project aimed to improve security and traffic at all schools, with a greater focus on the development of a replacement elementary school (Staley) and improved athletic facilities/infrastructure improvements at Rome Free Academy. As we move through the year together, I ask that you continue to be involved in our schools. It is my hope that you will engage directly with the myriad of communicative forums we use to keep families and the community informed. The Rome City School District utilizes all forms of communication with social media, our website, and email. I encourage you to contact your child’s teacher/school the moment you have a concern or a question, so that we can appropriately and quickly assist you.

In closing, please use this calendar as a resource guide for the year. Our website also has a vast amount of resources for you with regard to our school district and I highly encourage you to become active members of social media. I am very proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff here in Rome and I look forward to the continued growth and success of our wonderful community. My best wishes for a safe and enjoyable school year!

Peter C. Blake
Superintendent of Schools

NOTE: On this calendar we have compiled a list of events/activities throughout the Rome City School District. More content is added during the school year on our website at: www.romecsd.org; PeachJar (electronic flyers for families > link on our website) and Facebook @Romecsd.

twitter.com/@pblake_RomeCSD
pblake@romecsd.org
leadingthroughlistening.blogspot.com/
# Rome City School District 2019-2020 Calendar

## August 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>BOE Meeting 6:30 p.m. District Office</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Early Childhood Parent Orientation: 9 a.m.; 12 p.m.; and 5 p.m.</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Last Quarter Moon</td>
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**Important Dates:**
- **Summer Graduation:** RFA 5:30 p.m.
- **New Teacher Training:** RFA Library - 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **Staley Meet & Greet:** 5:30 - 7 p.m.
- **7th Grade and New Student Orientation:** Strough 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- **10th & 11th Grade Orientation:** RFA 5:30 p.m.
- **12th Grade Orientation:** RFA 6:30 p.m.
- **8th Grade Student Orientation:** Strough - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- **9th Grade Orientation:** RFA 6 p.m.
HEALTH SERVICES

Please contact building nurse if you have additional questions

Should a student become ill/injured at school, he/she will be sent to the nurse to determine the action to be taken. If the injury/illness is significant in nature, you will receive a call/note home. **A Home/Cell and Emergency number must be available to the school nurse in case of injury, illness, or fever greater than or equal to 100.0.**

Daily and as needed medications must be brought directly to the School Nurse, by an Adult, in its original container. Medications must be accompanied by a physician’s order indicating the type of medication, dosage, and time of day it is to be given, prescription bottle is to match the order. Order forms are available in the nurse’s office.

Frist aid supplies are available and will be used in treating students per the Rome City School District Medical Director’s Guidelines. **IF parents choose to OPT OUT of the use of these products, then written notice must be provided to the building nurse as soon as possible. All building nurses’ offices have a list available for view. Please indicate child’s name, products you do not want used, the date and the parents/guardians name printed and signed on the note.**

Health Forms will be sent home asking for pertinent medical information/changes and phone numbers. Please fill these out the best of your ability and send back to the nurse promptly, these our guide to your child’s health safety.

2019-2020 Grade Requirements for Physicals and Screenings

**HEALTH EXAM**

Heath Examination requirements: Grades PreK or K, 1,3,5,7,9,11

Dental screening recommended as well but not required.

**Vision and Hearing Screenings required** within 6 months of entering school and in grades PreK or K, 1,3,5,7,9,11

**Scoliosis** Screening are required as well for females in grades 5 and 7, For males in grade 9

If your child has an abnormal screening result in any of the above areas your building nurse will notify you in writing with a referral for follow up with their primary physician. If you do not receive anything in writing than your child’s screenings were normal.

Please speak to your school nurse or family physician if you have any question regarding these requirements.

**NYS IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ENTRANCE/ATTENDANCE**

Information has been sent out to parents/guardians of students who are entering grades requiring vaccinations. Immunizations must be up to date with in the 14-day grace period that NYS allows from the start of your child’s first day on RCSD School Campus. Students starting Fall Sports in August must be up to date on immunization in order to be cleared for the start of sports in August. Those who are not up to date by the end of the NYS grace period will be excluded from school. **As a reminder, Medical exemptions must be renewed yearly and NYS in no longer accepting Religious Exemptions for public and private institutions. Please do not hesitate to contact your school nurse with any questions or concerns.**

For a copy of the updated immunization requirements from the Department of Health, visit: [https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2370.pdf](https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2370.pdf)

**REQUIRED BMI AND WEIGHT STATUS CATEGORY REPORTING**

As part of the required school health examination, a student is weighed and his/her height is measured. Their numbers are used to figure out the student’s’ body mass index or “BMI”. The BMI helps the nurse or doctor know if the student’s weight is in a healthy range or is too high or low. NYS education law requires that the BMI and weight status category be included as part the student’s school health exam. These exams are required in Prek or K, 1, 3,5,7,9 and 11.

The law also directs the schools to report this information to the NYS Department of Health. Only summary information is sent to the DOH (total number divided by sex, grade and weight category). **NO IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ABOUT AN INDIVIDUAL STUDENT IS SENT.** However, you may choose to have your child’s information excluded from this report.

This information is used by the NYS DOH to help improve and develop more programs to maintain/improve the health of our children.

If you do not wish to for your child’s weight status information to be included as part of the NYS Health Department Survey, please send in a note to your child school nurse by September 30, 2019 with the following information:

Please do not include my child’s weight status information in this year’s school survey.

Print Childs Name: _____________________ Date:_____________________
Prints Parent/Guardians Name: _____________________
**SCHOOL CLOSURES**

1. **September 2, 2019**
   - Gansevoort PTG: 3:30 p.m.
   - Joy Back to School Night bring your child Ice Cream social

2. **September 8, 2019**
   - Staley Picture Day

3. **September 9, 2019**
   - Staley Fall Book Fair/Spirit Week

4. **September 15, 2019**
   - Ridge Mills Picture Day

5. **September 22, 2019**
   - Staley Open House 6-7:30 p.m.

6. **September 29, 2019**
   - Stokes Picture Day
   - Ridge Book Fair Starts
   - Staley Spirit Wear Sale

**SCHOOL EVENTS**

1. **September 2-3, 2019**
   - Superintendent’s Conference Day

2. **September 8-9, 2019**
   - Superintendent’s Conference Day

3. **September 11-12, 2019**
   - BOE Meeting 6:30 p.m.

4. **September 15-16, 2019**
   - Denti School Picture Days

5. **September 22-23, 2019**
   - RFA Open House 6-7:30 p.m.

6. **September 29-30, 2019**
   - Staley Fall Fundraiser Starts

**SCHOOL MEETINGS**

1. **September 9, 2019**
   - Ridge Mills PTG/Library 6 p.m.

2. **September 16, 2019**
   - Bellamy PTG: 6 p.m.

3. **September 23, 2019**
   - Ridge Mills Spirit Day - RWB
   - Staley Picture Day

4. **September 30, 2019**
   - Ridge Mills 'Ellie the Pig' Birthday Bash

**ATHLETICS EVENTS**

1. **August 12, 2019**
   - RFA Homecoming Game

2. **October 19, 2019**
   - RFA Homecoming Dance
SCHOOL BUS SAFETY RULES

The following information is useful for school bus riders and their parents.

RULES FOR GETTING ON THE BUS SAFELY:

1. Be at the bus stop on time. Never run to or from the bus.
2. Wait at the designated stop in a safe place well back from the side of the road.
3. Remember the danger zone around the bus. The danger zone is anywhere close enough to the bus to touch it. The bus driver cannot see you when you are in the danger zone.
4. If you cross the street to get on the bus: when the bus comes, wait until it has come to a complete stop. The bus driver will make sure all the traffic stops. The stop arm will be out and the red lights will be flashing. Watch the driver. When the driver knows it is safe, he or she will signal you to cross, but watch for traffic yourself. Walk, don’t run.
5. Hold the hand rail as you get on the bus. Don’t push or shove.

RULES FOR SAFE SCHOOL BUS RIDING:

1. Take your seat promptly and sit properly, facing forward at all times.
2. Hold bags and parcels in your lap. Do not stick your feet into the aisle; someone might trip.
3. Keep your head and arms-everything-inside the bus. Don’t throw anything out the windows or around in the bus.
4. Talk quietly. The driver must concentrate to drive the bus safely.
5. Save snacks for snack time at school or till you get home. They may spill or you may choke if the bus goes over a big bump.
6. No fighting, shouting or playing in or around the bus.
7. Always follow the bus driver’s instructions.
8. No spraying of perfumes, deodorants, hairspray, air fresheners, etc. is allowed on the bus.
9. No foul language or improper hand gestures toward students, bus driver or general public.
10. BULLYING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

RULES FOR LEAVING THE BUS SAFELY:

1. When you leave the bus, hold the handrail and take two large steps away from the bus.
2. To cross the street in front of the bus, walk ahead at least ten giant steps (three meters). Cross only when the driver gives a signal. Cross the street in single file.
3. If you drop something near the bus, don’t pick it up. Tell the driver or other adult.
4. If everyone is getting off the bus, the people at the front leave first. Do not push.
5. Be familiar with the rules for emergencies.
6. Parents should meet children on the side of the street where the bus stops.

Video cameras have been installed on all buses. Students may be filmed while on the bus. Violations of the Code of Student Conduct or any behavior, which substantially distracts the driver and causes, or has the potential to cause, a safety hazard on a moving bus, may be the basis for suspension from bus/school and/or expulsion from bus-riding privileges.

WHAT IS NOT PERMITTED ON THE SCHOOL BUS

- Guns (real or toy)
- Skis and Ski Poles (not allowed on regular routes)
- Sleds
- Fireworks
- Bicycles
- Spray Cans
- Skateboards and Scooters
- Matches, Lighters and Tobacco products of any kind, including e-cigarettes.
- Knives (real or toy)
- Saws or Axes
- Bags of Returnable Cans
- Animals (pets)

NEW MOBILE APP TRACKS SCHOOL BUS LOCATION

Parents in the Rome City School District may never have to again ask, “When does the bus arrive?” thanks to a new mobile application being introduced this fall on all of our school buses.

The mobile app delivers real-time tracking of school bus location as well as e-mail and push notification alerts to ensure students and parents arrive at the school bus stop on time. For more information and to download the app, visit: www.romecsd.org
NOTICE to Parents and Eligible Students (students over 18 years of age) of Rights Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

To: Parents and Eligible Students of the Rome City School District:

You are notified that you have the following rights in relation to student records:

1. The right to inspect and review student’s education records within a reasonable time but not more than 45 days from the day the District receives a request for access.

   Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights.

   Parents or eligible students may ask the Rome City School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of student’s privacy rights. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights.

   If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the District’s decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

   One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

   Upon request, the District discloses educational records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

   Family Policy Compliance Office
   U.S. Department of Education
   400 Maryland Avenue
   Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

DISTRICT-PROVIDED INTERPRETERS FOR HEARING-IMPAIRED PARENTS/ GUARDIANS

Regulation 8055: The District shall annually notify parent(s) of the availability of interpreters or other effective reasonable accommodations and of the time limitation for requesting the services. The Superintendent shall determine the means of such notification.

MILITARY RECRUITER DISCLOSURE

Parents of high school students have a right to request that the district not release the child’s name, address and telephone number to military recruiters without prior written consent.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN TITLE 1 PROGRAMS, POLICY 1060

NOTICE: Parents of students in the following Title 1 schools: RFA, Strough, Shaley Elementary, Bellamy, Denti, Gansevoort, and John Joy may request from the District certain information relating to qualifications of their student’s teacher. A district receiving Title 1 funds must hold an annual Title 1 meeting.

NCLB TITLE 1 - ANNUAL PARENTAL NOTICE ON TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, this is to advise you that you have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child’s classroom teachers. If you desire such information, please submit a written request for this information to the attention of: Geoffrey Morton, Director of People Operations, Rome City School District, 409 Bell Road, Rome NY 13440. For more information visit the District website at www.romecsd.org.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The school district designates the following personally identifiable information contained in a student’s education record as “directory information”, and it will disclose the information without prior written consent.

1. Student’s name
2. Student’s address
3. Student’s telephone number
4. Student’s date of birth
5. Student’s class designation (i.e. first grade, tenth grade, etc.)
6. Student’s participation in officially recognized activities and sports
7. Student’s achievement awards or honors
8. Student’s weight and height, if a member of an athletic team
9. Dates of attendance
10. Student’s photograph, video image; and
11. Most recent educational institution attended before the student enrolled in the school district.

You have two weeks from the date of this notice to advise the school district in writing, directed to the office of the Superintendent of Schools, of any and all items which you refuse to permit the district to designate as directory information about the student.
NOVEMBER 2019

Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday
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**Veterans Day**
SCHOOLS CLOSED

**Gansevoort School Picture Retake Day**

**Respect, Responsibility and Resourcefulness - John Joy 2 p.m.**
**Ridge Mills Family Fun Night - Baking for the Rescue Mission. - 6 p.m.**

**Gansevoort School Picture Retake Day**

**New Moon**
**Bellamy Dress Like a Coach Day**

**Thanksgiving Recess**
SCHOOLS CLOSED

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**Ridge Mills Spirit Day**
**Staley Spirit Day**
**Gansevoort ‘Flannel Day’**
**Strough Parent Engagement Night**
**Staley Picture Retake Day**
**RFA Heat of Fusion**
**Parent/Teacher Conference Pre-K Dismissal: 12 p.m.**
**Elementary Dismissal: 12:40 p.m.**

**Staley Can Drive Ends**
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# NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entering Freshman Class</th>
<th>Local Diploma Requirements</th>
<th>Regents Diploma Requirements</th>
<th>Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation Requirements</th>
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<td>2009 &amp; After*</td>
<td>For students granted an appeal for two required Regents exams and for students with disabilities using safety net/compensatory scores. Please see your guidance counselor for more information.</td>
<td>Passing 65 or higher on one Regents exam (or approved alternative exam) in math, science, English, and social studies. Also must pass one additional Regents exam or approved alternative exam in: CTE Pathway, math or science, (STEM Pathway) or Social Studies (Humanities Pathway). Earn 22 units of credit.</td>
<td>Score 65 or above on 8 required Regents exams or approved alternative exams. Earn 22 units of credit.</td>
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* Alternative pathways for graduation are open to students who entered ninth grade in 2011 or after. For more information on alternative pathways: www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/multiple-pathways

** Students with disabilities may be eligible for a local diploma.

# EMERGENCY DRILLS

Emergency drills at regular intervals are required by law and are an important safety precaution. It is essential that everyone take note of these procedures for the safety of students and staff.

During the course of the year, our schools conduct multiple drills, including evacuations, lock downs, lock outs, and shelter in place drills. For more information on Emergency Response Guidelines, please visit our website at: www.romecsd.org and click on the link under ‘Parents’ tab.

# STUDENT VALUABLES

Students are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money and electronic devices to school. Students are responsible for their own personal property.
### Monday
- **1st Quarter Moon**
- **12th Grade Yearbook Pictures Due**
- **Winter Recess**
- **SCHOOLS CLOSED**

### Tuesday
- **2nd Quarter Moon**
- **JOY Cocoa with Santa - 6-7:30 p.m.**
- **Ridge Mills Spirit Week**

### Wednesday
- **Joy with Santa - 6-7:30 p.m.**
- **RFA Winter Concert I (Instrumental) @ RFA 7 p.m.**
- **RFA Winter Concert II (Choral) @ RFA 7 p.m.**
- **Gansevoort Winter Concert (5/6) - Gansevoort 6 p.m.**
- **John Joy Santa Shop: December 10-12**

### Thursday
- **BOE Meeting District Office: 6:30 p.m.**
- **Gansevoort PTG. Mtg -3:30 p.m.**
- **Staley Winter Concert 5/6 RFA - 6 p.m.**
- **Strough Winter Concert 5/6 RFA - 7:30 p.m.**
- **Gansevoort Scholastic Book Fair: December 9-13**

### Friday
- **Staley - Cookies with Santa**
- **Staley Spirit Day**
- **Stokes ‘Twin’ Day**
- **Strough PTSO mtg. 6 p.m.**

### Saturday
- **SAT’s at RFA**
- **Ridge Mills Winter Concert 5/6 Strough - 6 p.m.**
- **RFA Winter Concert II (Choral) @ RFA 7 p.m.**
- **John Joy Santa Shop: December 10-12**
- **Bellamy Winter Concert 5/6 RFA - 7:30 p.m.**
- **Bellamy PTO - 6 p.m.**

### Sunday
- **Winter Recess**
- **SCHOOLS CLOSED**

*Note: Full Moon on December 10th.*
**STUDENT BEHAVIOR CODES**

**PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING CODE OF CONDUCT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

As a member of the school community, each student has a duty to:

A. Accept responsibility for his/her actions
B. Exercise self-control
C. Develop habits of honesty, courtesy, and kindness
D. Use his/her time and talents for worthwhile purposes
E. Show consideration for the feelings, opinions, and abilities of others
F. Participate in school events
G. Encourage parents to participate in school activities

**BASIC RULES FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

Each student is expected to:

A. Attend school regularly and on time
B. Take pride in his/her own property and respect the property of others
C. Obey school and community rules of behavior
D. Observe all safety regulations
E. Obey school staff and other persons in authority

Each student has a right to expect the same behavior by members of the school community. (Parents receive a summary of the Code of Conduct inserted in this calendar). Complete copies of the Attendance Policy and Code of Conduct are available in all schools and the public library.

**PHILOSOPHY**

For a school system to function properly, the conduct of pupils must conform to conditions that are conducive to learning. Principals and teachers in New York State are charged with maintaining such order in school. The burden of maintaining order and dealing with the various forms of disorder falls primarily upon the shoulders of the classroom teachers, for they have a larger portion of contact hours with pupils than do other school personnel.

One of the goals of formal education is to enhance and to develop, on the part of children, a sense of inner directedness, or self-control, which, once attained, allows learning to transpire in a classroom setting and prepares children for the adjustments and demands of society. We desire that the achievement of this goal be accomplished within the confines of humanitarian principles and ideals, thereby insuring adherence to the basic rights and dignity of all concerned.

It must be recognized that the development of self-control begins with the process of socialization at a very early age within the family unit. In effect, the parents are the children’s first “teachers.” Children whose parents have established clear and consistent rules for behavior have little difficulty adjusting to a formal school environment. With this understanding, it is incumbent upon the parents to remain visible and support the school in efforts to maintain proper discipline.

**THE NEW YORK STATE DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT**

The Rome City School District is currently implementing new requirements to protect students and ensure a positive learning experience for your child. New York State signed into legislation a Dignity For All Students Act in September 2010. The goal of the Dignity For All Students Act is to create a safe and supportive school climate where students can learn and focus, rather than fear being discriminated, harassed or bullied.

No student shall be subjected to discrimination based on a person’s actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex by another student or a school employee on school property or at a school function.

This year each school will be planning activities to raise student awareness related to bullying and positive student behaviors. Each school principal will serve as Dignity Act Coordinator for their respective school. For complete list visit: http://www.romecsd.org/district/dignity_for_all_students_act

Should you wish to report an incident where you feel your child has been bullied, harassed or discriminated against, please contact the principal at your child’s school. If you have questions regarding the equal opportunity and non-discrimination policy, please contact the District Compliance Officers: Director of People Operations, Geoffrey Morton at 315-338-6531 or Amanda Jones at 315-338-6518.
# Rome City School District Calendar 2019-2020

## January 2020

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### Sunday
- **January 5**
  - Bellamy PTO: 6 p.m.

### Monday
- **January 6**
  - Staley Spirit Day
  - Strough Hat Day

### Tuesday
- **January 7**
  - Gansevoort PTG: 3:30 p.m.
  - BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.

### Wednesday
- **January 8**
  - Denti STARR Citizen/PTO Mtg.
  - Jr. High All-County Auditions (Sauquoit)

### Thursday
- **January 9**
  - New Moon

### Friday
- **January 10**
  - Full Moon
  - Staley Spirit Day
  - Strough Hat Day
  - Denti Spirit Day
  - Gansevoort 'Twin' Day

### Saturday
- **January 11**
  - RFA Student & Alumni Cabaret RFA - 7:30 p.m.

### Events
- **January 12**
  - RFA Earth Science Practical for Jan. Regents Only

- **January 19**
  - Martin Luther King Jr. Day (observed)
  - Ridge Family Fun Night Tubing at Woods Valley 6 p.m.

- **January 26**
  - All Schools 3rd Marking Period Starts

- **January 27**
  - Bellamy Book Fair ~ January 27-31

### Regents Exams
- **January 20-24**
  - All Schools 2nd Marking Period Ends
  - All Schools 3rd Marking Period Starts

- **January 29**
  - BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.

- **January 30**
  - Bellamy Favorite Team Jersey Day

- **January 31**
  - Ridge Mills Spirit Day: Red and White

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**Note:** The calendar includes various school events, meetings, and holidays, such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day and the Martin Luther King Jr. Day (observed). The calendar also highlights specific dates for academic and extracurricular activities, including meetings and exams for different marking periods. The calendar is a comprehensive guide for the academic year, providing important dates and events for students, parents, and staff.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION

ELEMENTARY REQUIRED
INSTRUCTION - Grades K-6

All students in grades K-6 participate in the physical education program twice a week. The time devoted to such programs is at least 120 minutes with a certified physical education teacher in each calendar week, exclusive of any intramural activities or playtime activities supervised by the classroom teacher.

SECONDARY REQUIRED INSTRUCTION - Grades 7-12

- 7-12 grade students earn 1/2 credit each year toward their two full credits for physical education as required by the Rome Board of Education.
- Grades 7-12 are scheduled for physical education every other day.

SNEAKER POLICY:

Acceptable sneakers must have tie strings or a velcro closure. Slip-on sneakers do not provide support and can come off too easily. Sneakers are not to have a heel or platform or large nubs that can “catch”.

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS:

The Rome City School District conducts a comprehensive program of interscholastic athletics for boys and girls in grades 7-12, competing on the modified, 9th grade, junior varsity, and varsity levels.

On the interscholastic level, we are governed by NYSPHSAA and Section 3. We are affiliated with and hold memberships in the following leagues:

- Central New York Counties League (Associate Membership)
- Tri Valley League (Full Membership)
- Center State Conference League (Associate Membership)

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC TEAMS

THE ROME CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO OUR POLICY ON SPORTSMANSHIP:

- Be positive and direct all energies to encouraging your team.
- Demonstrate self-control and respect for others at all times.
- Respect the integrity and judgement of the officials and coaches.
- Do not use crude or abusive language with players, opponents, officials or spectators, (ethnic and/or racial comments).
- Promote good sportsmanship by setting a positive example.
- Approach competition as a healthy and constructive exercise, not as a life and death struggle that requires victory at any price.
- Recognize that the participants in individual or team sports are young men and women with human frailties and limitations who are capable of making mistakes.

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<th>BOYS</th>
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<tr>
<td>FALL</td>
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<td>Football (V, JV, Modified)</td>
<td>Basketball (V, JV, 9th, Mod)</td>
<td>Baseball (V, JV, 9th, Mod)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Country (V, Mod)</td>
<td>Bowling (Varsity)</td>
<td>Golf (Varsity)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soccer (V, JV, Mod)</td>
<td>Ice Hockey (Varsity)</td>
<td>Lacrosse (V, JV, Mod)</td>
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<td>Indoor Track (Varsity)</td>
<td>Track/Field (V, Mod)</td>
<td>Tennis (Varsity)</td>
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<td>Swimming (V, Mod)</td>
<td>Wrestling (V, JV, Mod)</td>
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<th>GIRLS</th>
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<td>Cross Country (V, Mod)</td>
<td>Basketball (V, JV, Mod)</td>
<td>Golf (Varsity)</td>
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<td>Field Hockey (V, JV, Mod)</td>
<td>Bowling (Varsity)</td>
<td>Softball (V, JV, Mod)</td>
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<td>Gymnastics (Varsity)</td>
<td>Indoor Track (Varsity)</td>
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<td>Cheering (Varsity)</td>
<td>Lacrosse (V, JV, Mod)</td>
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<td>Volleyball (Varsity)</td>
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<td>Cheering (Varsity)</td>
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**FEBRUARY 2020**

**Monday**
- 2 Bellamy PTO: 6 p.m.
- 4 Staley Fundraiser: Starts February 5-26
  - Gansevoort PTG: Library 3:30 p.m.
- 6 Denti PTO: 6 p.m.

**Tuesday**
- 3 Ridge PTG: Library - 6 p.m.
- 5 Staley Fundraiser: Starts February 5-26
  - Gansevoort PTG: Library 3:30 p.m.
- 7 Early Childhood Sweetheart Dance (4 year olds only)
  - Clough - 6 p.m.
  - Joy Movie Night
  - Staley Spirit Day
  - Gansevoort ‘Dress like you’re 100’ Spirit Day

**Wednesday**
- 4 Staley Fundraiser: Starts February 5-26
  - Gansevoort PTG: Library 3:30 p.m.
- 5 Staley Fundraiser: Starts February 5-26
- 6 Denti PTO: 6 p.m.

**Thursday**
- 5 Staley Fundraiser: Starts February 5-26
- 6 Denti PTO: 6 p.m.

**Friday**
- 2 First Quarter Moon
- 8 A Cappella Collegiate Invitational: 7:30 p.m. at RFA

**Saturday**
- 1 Last Quarter Moon
- 8 A Cappella Collegiate Invitational: 7:30 p.m. at RFA

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**January 2020**

**Mid-Winter Recess**
- SCHOOLS CLOSED

**March 2020**

**Mid-Winter Recess**
- SCHOOLS CLOSED

**February 2020**

- **1st Quarter Moon**
- **New Moon**

**Rome City School District 2019-2020 Calendar**

- RomeCSD > rome.org

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**Mid-Winter Recess**
- SCHOOLS CLOSED

**New Moon**
- 23

**March 2020**

**Mid-Winter Recess**
- SCHOOLS CLOSED

**Full Moon**
- 9

**Last Quarter Moon**
- 15

**BOE Meeting**
- District Office 6:30 p.m.

**Strough Spirit Day**
- Pink and red day

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**First Quarter Moon**
- 1

**New Moon**
- 23

**Strough Spirit Day**
- Black & Orange

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**Rome City School District 2019-2020 Calendar**

- RomeCSD > rome.org
COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE ON PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION

Each Board of Education in the State of New York must appoint a Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) and Committee on Special Education (CSE) in accordance with the provisions of Education Law, Section 4402. The district must locate and identify all children with disabilities from birth to 21 years of age who reside in the district. The purpose of the CSE and CPSE is to determine whether a child has a disability that impairs or affects his/her learning; to ascertain the particular needs of the child with disabilities; and to recommend the appropriate educational program and/or services to meet those needs. Parents of children presented for consideration to the Committee on Special Education are notified of such presentation and are invited to attend the meeting.

If you are concerned that your child has a learning, visual, hearing, motor, and/or social problem and you wish to have him/her presented to the district’s Committee, please contact the Director of Special Education at 315-338-6581 or call your building school psychologist.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Rome City School District provides a comprehensive program for students requiring special education that meets both the mandates and the spirit of State and Federal legislation. The Rome City School District Board of Education has demonstrated a strong commitment to the special needs of students with disabilities as demonstrated in the exemplary level of services offered to our students in striving toward the least restrictive environment.

From birth through age 21 children with special needs have an opportunity to achieve their fullest potential through programs available within the district or through various agencies. Preschoolers 2 1/2 to four years of age are eligible for a multidisciplinary team assessment through the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE). There is no cost to families for this service. If you suspect your child might be delayed in speech, language, intellect, motor skills or social-emotional skills, call 315-338-6507 for more information or a referral.

Students age five and older who might have a disability are assessed by building level assessment and that evaluation is reviewed at a CSE meeting. The CSE is an interdisciplinary team composed of district staff and other required members. If you wish to refer a student, please notify his/her teacher/principal. Academic Intervention Services are the first step in this process.

The district offers a full continuum of services ranging from related therapy services, resource room, co-taught classes and small special education classrooms. The support service staff includes teachers, teaching assistants, speech/language therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, psychologists, guidance counselors, nurses, interpreters, teachers of the blind and deaf as well as administrative and secretarial personnel. The district provides services based on the individual needs of each student determined at the Committee on Special Education meeting. Educational achievement, social development, physical development and management needs are all considered for recommended services as well as program modification and test accommodations.

The policy of the Board of Education ensures that students with disabilities, ages 3-21, have the opportunity to participate in school district programs, including extracurricular programs and activities, which are available to all other pupils enrolled in the public schools of the district. Utilizing appropriate accommodations, modifications, instructional techniques and materials enhances access to the full range of programs and services of the district that are appropriate to the student’s special educational needs. The district supports placement of students in the least restrictive environment.
# Rome City School District 2019-2020 Calendar

## March 2020

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<td>RFA Pops Concert (All RFA Ensembles) RFA - 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Stough 'Comfy Clothes' Day</td>
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<td>Staley 3rd &amp; 4th Grade Dance</td>
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<td>Bellamy Wear Green Day</td>
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<td>Respect, Responsibility and Resourcefulness - John Joy '2 p.m.</td>
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<td>College Planning Workshop Part I - RFA</td>
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<td>BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Stokes Italian Dinner 5-7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Ridge Science Fair - 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>Bellamy-Down Syndrome: Lots of Socks - Spirit Day</td>
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<td>Stough Black &amp; Orange Day</td>
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<td>All-City Orchestra Festival RFA - 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>College Planning Workshop Part II - RFA</td>
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<td>Joy Dance</td>
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<td>Gansevoort Idol - 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Junior High All-County Festival (Sauquoit)</td>
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<td>Junior High All-County Festival (Waterville)</td>
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**Key Dates in MARCH 2020:**
- **First Quarter Moon**
- **Last Quarter Moon**
- **Full Moon (Supermoon)**
- **New Moon**
- **Daylight Savings Time Begins**

**All-City Orchestra Festival (Snow Date) RFA - 7 p.m.**

**Superintendent's Conference Day**

**SCHOOLS CLOSED**

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**February 2020**

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**April 2020**

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BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES

The Board of Education takes a broad view of its required functions. It sees them as:

1. LEGISLATIVE OR POLICYMAKING
   The Board is responsible for the development of policy and for the employment of a superintendent who shall carry out its policy through the development and implementation of regulations.

2. JUDICIAL
   The Board is responsible for designating one or more of its members to conduct any hearing in connection with any responsibility of the Board and to make a report on this hearing for Board determination.

3. APPRAISAL
   The Board is responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of its policies and their implementation.

4. EDUCATIONAL PLANNING
   The Board is responsible for requiring and acquiring reliable information from responsible sources, which will enable it and the staff to work toward the continuing improvement of the educational program.

5. PROVISION OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES
   The Board has major responsibilities for the adoption of a budget which will provide the wherewithal - in terms of buildings, staff, materials, and equipment - which will enable the school system to carry out its policies.

6. INTERPRETATION
   The Board is responsible for providing adequate and direct means for keeping the local citizenry informed about the schools and for keeping itself and the school staff informed about the wishes of the public.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The nine members of the Board, with the President serving as chairperson, shall constitute a Committee of the Whole. Five Board members present at all regularly scheduled and special meetings shall constitute a quorum.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Bellamy PTO: 6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>Stokes Basket Bash</td>
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<td>April 3</td>
<td>Spring Recess</td>
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<td>April 4</td>
<td>BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>April 5</td>
<td>Spring Recess</td>
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<td>April 6</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
<td>Spring Recess</td>
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<td>April 11</td>
<td>Spring Recess</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Last Quarter Moon</td>
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<td>April 13</td>
<td>Stough PTO Mtg.: 6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>Spring Recess</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Bellamy PTO: 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td>Stokes Basket Bash</td>
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<td>April 18</td>
<td>Spring Recess</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td>Bellamy Science Fair</td>
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<td>April 20</td>
<td>BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>Bellamy Science Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>New Moon</td>
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<td>April 23</td>
<td>Denti &quot;Hawaiian&quot; Day</td>
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<td>April 24</td>
<td>Staley Basket Raffle</td>
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<td>April 25</td>
<td>RFA Musical: April 23-25 - 7:30 p.m. - RFA Auditorium</td>
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<td>April 26</td>
<td>Stokes Book Fair Night</td>
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<td>April 27</td>
<td>Stokes BOGO Book Fair</td>
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<td>April 28</td>
<td>First Quarter Moon</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Denti Musical: April 28-29 - 6:30 p.m. - Denti</td>
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<td>April 30</td>
<td>BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.</td>
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</table>
PUBLIC NOTICE: ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Federal Regulations require that schools be inspected for the presence of asbestos, a toxic material that has been used in the construction industry for a number of years. (All buildings in the Rome City School District have been inspected for asbestos-containing materials and the results of the inspections are contained in the Asbestos Management Plan). This plan has been sent to the State Authority in charge of asbestos abatement and has been accepted.

The Asbestos Management Plan includes the results of all the inspections conducted on all the school buildings. It also contains the results of the materials samples, which were taken during the inspections and the plans for abatement.

The Asbestos Management Plan is available for review during regular working hours at the school office. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan will be made, upon request, for a nominal fee of $.25 per sheet to cover the cost of copying and handling. Each plan contains between 600 and 900 pages.

Recent scientific and medical evidence has shown that asbestos containing material can be harmful to the human body. The Asbestos Management Plan shows the amount of asbestos present in these school buildings as well as the specific locations of the asbestos. Our local Education Authority has decided to undertake a series of actions to reduce the amount of asbestos and the propensity for contact. These actions will significantly reduce the impact that asbestos-containing materials can have and thus continue to maintain the standard of safety that is expected of this institution.

For more information, contact the Buildings and Grounds Department at 315-334-7265.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

The Rome City School District follows mandated Integrated Pest Management practices in order to reduce the use of pesticides in and around the District's buildings and grounds. Despite the best practices, it may still be necessary to use pesticides periodically during the year to maintain a safe and healthy environment within the schools.

New York State law requires that all schools maintain a list of any staff members or parents who wish to receive written notice forty-eight (48) hours prior to a pesticide application at their school facility. If you wish to be included on this notification list or would like further information on the Rome City School District Pesticide Program, please contact the Buildings & Grounds Department at 315-334-7265 or via post at 255 Brookley Road, Rome, NY 13441.
HELPING YOUR CHILDREN

- Join the parent group at your child’s school. This is not just for parents of young children, but also at Strough and RFA.

- Read to your child. As your child grows, let her/him see you reading. Make sure your child has a library card.

- Visit your child’s school. You are welcome and encouraged to visit school during the school day. Please call ahead for arrangements. Attend the school’s Open House or Parent Night in the fall.

- If your child must take medication during school hours, the school nurse will be happy to work with you and the physician. A written request from both the parent and the physician is required. The medication cannot be carried to school by the child.

- Be sure your child has very good attendance.

- Apply for free or reduced breakfast and lunch. Many families are eligible. For example, a family of three with an income up to $715 per week is eligible. Look for the insert in this calendar or call your child’s school or the district’s school lunch office at 315-338-6555.

COMMUNICATING DELAYS AND EARLY DISMISSALS

Delays, cancellations and early dismissals are all announced on the following stations, the Rome City School District website and Facebook page:
TV:
ONLINE: www.uticaod.com
Ch. 2 • Ch. 3 • Ch. 9 • Ch. 10 • Ch. 11
RADIO: FM:
WLZW - 98.7 WTKW - 99.5 WIBX - 950
WFRG - 104.3 WBGK - 99.7
WODZ - 96.1 WOUR - 96.9
WSKS - 97.9 WBUG - 101.1

SCHOOL MESSENGER
www.romecsd.org / www.facebook.com/Romecsd
twitter.com/RomeCSD / twitter.com/@pblake_RomeCSD

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

Poor weather and/or other conditions occasionally necessitate the closing of schools. In the event of an emergency closing, parents/guardians and students are notified by means of announcements on local radio, television stations and an automated phone calling system.

The decision to close is based upon several criteria - wind speed in combination with temperature, present and predicted precipitation, and overall road conditions.

Announcements of school closings/delays are made through the news media and automated phone calling system, generally beginning at 6 a.m. In some instances, it may be necessary to make announcements as late as 6:30 a.m. Since decisions on closing have to be made very early in the morning and weather conditions sometimes change drastically before students actually begin traveling to school, the ultimate decision on safety of travel conditions for students rests with the parent/guardian.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

We encourage parental visits to schools. Visitations to classrooms should be arranged through the teacher and the building principal. All visitors must report to the main office. Parents picking up students for appointments are requested to report to the office where the child is to be signed out.
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bellamy Over the Rainbow</td>
<td>Stough 6th Grade Parents Night - 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Gansevoort PTG: Library 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Denti STARR Citizen/PTO: 6 p.m.</td>
<td>BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>- wear your favorite color</td>
<td>NYS Assessments Science Grades 4 &amp; 6 Written</td>
<td>Stough Awards Ceremony - 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>REGENGS EXAMS -- RFA</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Bellamy PTO: 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Stough PTSO Mtg. - 6 p.m.</td>
<td>NYS Regents Earth Science Practical Exam -- RFA</td>
<td>Last Quarter Moon</td>
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<td>RFA Spring Concert I (instrumental) @ RFA 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Gansevoort Flag Day</td>
<td>Stoughfest: 12:20-1:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Stokes Fun Day</td>
<td>Bellamy braids and shades</td>
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<td>Flag Day</td>
<td>Assembly/Old Glory Run</td>
<td>Strough 8th grade Water Safari Trip 7:45 a.m.-5 p.m. (Rain Date)</td>
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<td>Respect, Responsibility and Resourcefulness - John Joy 2 p.m.</td>
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<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>RFA Spring Concert II (choral) @ RFA 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Gansevoort Fun Day for</td>
<td>Staley Fun Day</td>
<td>School Dance and Celebration John Joy</td>
<td>Early Childhood Fun Day</td>
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<td>First Quarter Moon</td>
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<td>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</td>
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<td>Ridge Fun Day</td>
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<td>BOE Meeting District Office 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>RFA Graduation Rehearsal - 9 a.m.</td>
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ROME CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2019-2020 CALENDAR
THE DRUG-FREE SCHOOL – YOUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The law requires that the Rome City School District make you aware of the dangers of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. Drug and alcohol use can:

1. Interfere with how your brain takes in and sorts information. That makes it difficult to learn and causes failure at school.
2. Distort what you see, hear and even feel. When that happens, users aren’t fully in control of their actions. They may harm themselves or others, or they may make it impossible for those around them to learn.
3. Make users feel they are performing at their best, when actual performance is poor or less than their best.
4. Cause crime at school, including assault or theft of personal property to finance someone’s drug habit.
5. Leave a user or seller with a criminal record, spoiling his or her chances for the future.

The law requires the Rome City School District to outlaw the possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs and alcohol by students and school employees on school property or during school activities. It also requires us to explain the risks that tobacco, drug and alcohol use pose to your health.

Specific substances such as marijuana, cocaine, crack, steroids, heroin and hallucinogens (PCP, LSD) are illegal. A drug such as alcohol is not illegal, but is illegal for minors. Taking prescription drugs without a prescription is illegal and can be extremely dangerous. The use of inhalants to “sniff” or “huff” such as glue, aerosols, butane, dry cleaning fluids, gasoline, etc., are extremely dangerous and can result in serious injury or death.

If illegal drugs are found on school property and there is evidence that a certain individual is responsible, this evidence can be used in a court of law.

If illegal drugs are found, this evidence could be used in court against the individual who had them. If alcohol or any other substance outlawed on school property is found, action may be taken right up to suspension or expulsion, even if the substance is legal outside school. Under the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, you have certain rights and responsibilities:

• We have to tell you that you can’t bring in, use or distribute illegal drugs or alcohol on school premises or as part of any school activity - and that’s a mandatory policy.
• We have to explain that drug and alcohol use is wrong, harmful and what the health risks are.
• We have to tell you what help is available in combating drug or alcohol problems.
• We have to explain what disciplinary actions will be taken for drug and alcohol violations.
• The law says discipline can include prosecution for illegal acts, as well as expulsion for students and loss of job for school employees.
• Finally, we have to give you, both students and employees, and the parents of our students, a written copy of our drug-free school policy, including standards of conduct and disciplinary actions for violations.

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act requires us to tell you of any help that’s available for dealing with drug or alcohol problems. You can voluntarily make use of this help at any time. The district implemented a School Resource Officer Program. This program provides a full-time Rome Police Officer to implement school programs to address drug and alcohol awareness and prevent incidents of student violence. The School Resource Officer is an additional person who can assist you when needed. You can find out what’s available from your building principal, guidance counselors, nurses or health teachers. At each school there are School Partnership for Youth workers. Your family doctor or one of the school physicians can also be of assistance. You can also check your phone directory under alcohol or drug treatment programs, local hospitals, social service agencies, or local “Hotline” service.

By law, the Rome City School District must be totally free of unlawful drugs and alcohol. No one is allowed to have, use or distribute such drugs or alcohol while they’re here or while they take part in school activities.

There is help available through the Rome City School District for persons with drug or drug-related problems. Remember that keeping our schools drug-free and alcohol-free is not just good sense anymore — it’s the law.
JULY 2020

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AUGUST 2020

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ROME CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2019-2020 CALENDAR
ROME CITY SCHOOLS
DISTRICT OFFICE

LOCATED AT:
409 Bell Road
Rome, NY 13440
315-338-6500

TITLE IX
In compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, the Rome City School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the recruitment and appointment of employees, employment pay and benefits, counseling services for students, access by students to educational programs, course offerings, and student activities.

ROME CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
409 Bell Road • Rome, NY 13440

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
PETER C. BLAKE
Office: 315-338-6521 • E-Mail: pblake@romecsd.org

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
CHRISTOPHER BREWER
Office: 315-338-6512 • cbrewer@romecsd.org

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT
ROBERT MEZZA, JR.
Office: 315-338-7285 • rmezza@romecsd.org

Director of People Operations.......................... Geoffrey Morton ........................ 315-338-6531
Director of Business and Finance ....................... David Dreidel ......................... 315-338-6541
Treasurer ............................................................. Jodi Haddad ............................... 315-338-6561
Director of Athletics, Health & Physical Education .......... Michael Stamboly ..................... 315-338-6571
Director of Supported Learning ....................... Brenna Kosicki ....................... 315-338-6581
Director of Arts and Engineering Technology ... Andrea Falvo................................. 315-338-6519
Director of Information Technology ................... Patrick Sullivan ........................ 315-334-7290
Director of Counseling Services ..................... Amanda S. Jones ..................... 315-338-6518
Director of Pre-K ........................................... Dana Benzo................................. 315-334-1250
Director of Instruction .................................... James DeAngelo ..................... 315-338-6512
Transportation Manager ..................................... Andrew Thompson .................. 315-338-6550
Director of Food Services................................... Christopher Whitmore .......... 315-338-6555
Director of Buildings & Grounds ........................ Alex Rodriguez ....................... 315-334-7265
Compliance Officers for Non-Discrimination:
Director of People Operations.......................... Geoffrey Morton ........................ 315-338-6531
Director of Counseling Services ..................... Amanda Jones ....................... 315-338-6518
Public Relations ................................................ Shannon Eddy / Jill Pekarski ...... 315-338-6547
**SCHOOLS**

**ROME FREE ACADEMY · 95 DART CIRCLE, ROME, NY 13441**

Brian LeBaron, Principal .......................... 315-334-7202  
Kelly Bowles, Assistant Principal .................. 315-334-7224  
Emily Dodd, Assistant Principal .................. 315-334-7204  
Danielle Hess, Assistant Principal ..................315-334-7233

**STROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL · 801 LAUREL STREET**

Tracy O'Rourke, Principal .......................... 315-338-5201  
Jennifer Pouliot, Assistant Principal ............... 315-338-5211  
Corey Snitchler, Assistant Principal ..................315-338-5202

**ELEMENARY SCHOOLS**

Bellamy Elementary · 7118 Brennon Ave.  
Molly Mytych, Principal .......................... 315-338-5261  
Anna Burke, Assistant Principal .................. 315-338-5266

Denti Elementary · 1001 Ruby St.  
Sherry Lubey, Principal .......................... 315-338-5371  
Wendy Hutchings, Assistant Principal ............... 315-338-5365

Gansevoort Elementary · 758 West Liberty St.  
Kathy Bragan, Principal .......................... 315-334-5181

John E. Joy Elementary · 8194 Bielby Rd.  
Andria Lacey, Principal .......................... 315-334-1261

Ridge Mills Elementary · 7841 Ridge Mills Rd.  
Michael Flagg, Principal .......................... 315-334-1281

Staley Elementary · 620 East Bloomfield St.  
Michael Davis, Principal .......................... 315-338-5302  
Sean Carone, Assistant Principal .................. 315-338-5312

Stokes Elementary · 9095 Turin Rd.  
Karen Miller, Principal .......................... 315-334-1221

Rome Early Childhood · 409 Bell Rd.  
Dana Benzo, Director .......................... 315-334-1250

**LUNCH BREAK...**

From the Desk of Chris Whitmore, School Lunch Manager

HAPPY FALL! The School Lunch staff hopes that you all had the opportunity to check out the summer feeding program at the local parks. Even though summer vacation has come to a close, we hope you are looking forward to a new school year.

It’s time for a chill in the air, beautiful leaves, football, soccer and field hockey... and, as always, the Lunch Staff is looking forward to getting back to school and serving all of your children. I am always looking for ways to make sure that your children are served a healthy, nutritious meal in a pleasant atmosphere.

We are very happy to announce that the school lunch prices will be staying the same as last year. The elementary schools along with Strough will be charging $1.90 and RFA will be charging $2.00 for their lunches. Breakfast will remain $1.25 this year for a full price meal. Milk prices have not changed, a carton of milk will cost $.50 per carton if bought separately.

This School Year, due to state funding, if your children are approved for Reduced Price Meals, you will NOT have to pay the required $.25 this year. You must still fill out the Free/Reduced Lunch Application, however if your status is Reduced, your children will NOT be charged this year for their breakfast or lunch. “MY SCHOOL BUCKS.COM” will still be available. You can log on to your computer at home to check your child’s lunch account and put money on your child’s lunch account via credit card. However, this is only one option; you can still pay with cash and or check. There is a slight fee for paying with a credit card. Each child in the Rome City School District will have an account that can be accessed on “myschoolbucks.com”. You can check the balance of his or her account and add money to the account whenever you need to. We can save you 10% if you put $50 on your child’s account...by check, by cash or on “myschoolbucks.com”. You will get $5 free for every $50 you put on your child’s account...as long as your child’s account is debt free.

In this calendar is an insert that contains a Free & Reduced Lunch Application. Please be sure and take the time to fill out all areas of this form. This is extremely important. There can be only one application per household, so please list all children in the family on one application. A self-addressed envelope is included for your convenience. Please be prompt when returning this information so that your children and your family can take advantage of the savings. Also, due to the amount of applications and the process of authorizing benefits, the sooner you get the applications in the quicker the benefits may be issued. If your application is not filled out properly, it may be mailed back for completion. This may delay your child’s benefits. In order to ensure that this does not happen, be sure to fill out all areas that apply to your family. Also, please be aware that if you were on this program last year, you still need to fill out an application this year by mid October of 2019.

There have been some questions and changes regarding charging in the cafeterias. Your child may charge their Breakfast or lunch, not A La Carte items if they have forgotten their money. They may charge Meals only at all of the schools in the District. It is the Rome City School District policy to make sure all children have the chance to eat. If your child does charge a message will be sent to the child’s home by automatic phone call every Sunday night. A letter will also be sent out to the household if the charges start to get high. This is to remind the household of the charges on the child’s account that need to be repaid.

The District’s Website (www.romecsd.org) has continuous information about the School Lunch Program including menus, programs, policies, links and fun “stuff”. You can also print off a Free and Reduced Lunch application. The Lunch Office is located at Rome Free Academy, 95 Dart Circle. If you need to stop in, please sign in at the Security Office, and someone will come down to assist you. If additional information is needed, please contact me at 315-338-6555. Thank you...we look forward to another great year!
The Rome City School District is an equal opportunity employer and an equal educational institution.