

“Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another. The measure of a society is marked by the care, compassion, and concern given to its children...”

G.K. Chesterton

Grey Matters

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It certainly was a windy end to the week. Did anyone lose power? The only hassle for my family was searching the neighborhood for our trash cans that blew down the street. I was saved from serious embarrassment by the other neighbors on the same quest.

Last Friday's 7th grade social was well attended and everyone seemed to have a blast. Kids were dancing and hopping and smiling the entire time. There was, however, a minor disruption which stopped the dancing for a couple minutes. As I stated in my Friday afternoon email to parents, a fire alarm pull station was jostled around 4PM which set off an auditory alarm at that specific location. While it did not set off the full fire alarm, nor was the noise loud enough to disrupt the dance, a number of students heard the sound and appeared worried. I stopped the music, made a brief announcement letting everyone know that there was no danger and everyone returned to their dancing.

I would like to thank RJG parents Beth Petr and Annete Sanderson, as well as staff members Kerry Byrne, Chris Mohn, Carla Brockmeier, Zora Warren, Sandy Lampert, Laurie Blagdon, Hye Kyung Dragone, Janet Rodero, Maggie Norian, and the members of the Student Council for their willingness to chaperone the dance. We couldn't have done it without you!

As I reported last week, a non-hazardous mold was found to be growing in the wall of room 311. The process of addressing this issue included removing sections of the wall in order to determine the exact location and extent of the damage, and removing and replacing the contaminated insulation. Our hope is this process will be completed within a few weeks but we will have to wait and see. Ms. Dragone's French and Spanish classes will remain in room 508 until this situation is resolved.

Report cards will be distributed early this week. Given the caliber of the RJG student body, I am confident that many of our students had a successful first term. With that said, there is always room to grow and there are many support systems available. I would encourage parents with concerns to contact their child's teachers with any questions right away. While the upcoming conferences are a great way to check in on your child's progress, they are very short and there is no reason to wait if you have any concerns.

We only have about 1 _ weeks until the Thanksgiving break when we all will get a much needed chance to relax and connect with our families. I can't wait!

