

# **RMSST Student - Family Handbook**

**2023-2024**

# RMSST Student-Family Handbook

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## **RMSST Mission Statement**

**The mission of the Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology**, a specialized research-focused learning community, is to foster and produce students who think ethically, critically, and independently while excelling in competitive academic environments and demonstrating high standards and expectations distinguished by:

- Rigorous, accelerated curriculum with real-world and global experiences
- Student-driven scientific research
- Opportunities to evaluate and apply technology in a variety of settings
- Instruction in professionalism, digital citizenship, and academic integrity
- Personalized academic support and advisement
- Collaboration with STEM-focused institutions and industries, including the College of Engineering at Georgia Institute of Technology
- Extracurricular academic, leadership, service, and international opportunities
- Dedicated family and community involvement
- Access to all programs and opportunities available at Rockdale County High School

*RCPS is preparing students to thrive in a global society and at RMSST we are growing global STEM leaders of accelerated change!*

### **RCPS VISION**

The ***Vision*** for Rockdale County Public Schools is that all students will become productive and thriving members of our global society who can advocate for themselves and others.

### **RCPS MISSION**

The ***Mission*** of Rockdale County Public Schools is to educate and empower all students by meeting their individual academic, behavioral, emotional, and social needs.

# RCPS 23-24 Calendar

Adopted | 2023-2024 School Calendar



www.rockdaleschools.org  
960 Pine Street NE  
Conyers, GA 30012

Rockdale County Schools - 2023-2024 Calendar																	
<b>July 2023</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31						<b>August 2023</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31						<b>September 2023</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					
<b>October 2023</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31						<b>November 2023</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30						<b>December 2023</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					
<b>January 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31						<b>February 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29						<b>March 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					
<b>April 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30						<b>May 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31						<b>June 2024</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					

**Important Staff Dates**

New Teacher Orientation - July 19 -21 & July 24  
 Pre-Planning Days - July 25-28 & July 31  
 Independent Learning / PL Days - Sept. 1; Oct. 23  
 Teacher Work Day & Conference Days - Nov. 7 & Mar. 29  
 Teacher Work Day / Professional Learning Days - Jan. 4&5  
 Early Release Day/Last Day of School - May 24  
 Post Planning Day - May 28

**Important Dates**

First Day of School - Aug. 1  
 Labor Day - Sept. 4  
 Fall Break - Oct. 2-6  
 Election Day - Nov. 7  
 Thanksgiving Break - Nov. 20-24  
 Early Release (for high school only)- Dec. 22  
 December Break - Dec. 25 - Jan. 3  
 MLK Day - Jan. 15  
 Winter Intersession - Feb. 19-23  
 Spring Break - Apr. 1-5  
 Last Day of School- May 24

	New Teacher Orientation
	First Day of School
	Intersessions / Weather Make-Up Days
	Independent Learning / PL Days
	Teacher Work Day / Planning / Professional Learning Days
	Teacher Work Day / Conference Day
	Holiday / Schools Closed
	Early Release Day for High School Students Only
	Early Release /Last Day of School

Day 20	Aug. 28, 2023
Day 40	Sept. 26, 2023
Day 60	Oct. 31, 2023
Day 80	Dec. 6, 2023
Day 100	Jan. 18, 2024
Day 120	Feb. 15, 2024
Day 140	Mar. 21, 2024
Day 160	Apr. 26, 2024
Day 180	May 24, 2024

\*Subject to modifications as deemed necessary by budget review process.

**Incllement Weather Make-up Days:** If school is cancelled due to incllement weather, make-up days may be used during intersession.

Adopted by the board: 7/21/22

# A/B Period Schedule

<b>A B Calendar</b> 07/01/2023 through 06/30/2024	<b>Rockdale County Public Schools</b> 2023-2024 Calendar Year	<b>Calendar Report</b> 07/13/2023 // 10:03:06 AM
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**Legend**

	Non-instructional day
	Non school day
<b>Period Schedules</b>	
	A
	B

July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

March						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Default number of instructional minutes per day: 380  
 Total number of instructional days this year: 180  
 Total number of instructional minutes this year: 0

\*Note: The final exam schedule is not finalized and A/B days will be adjusted during final exams.

## 2023-2024 Bell Schedule

1<sup>st</sup> Block 8:05am – 9:35am

*9:35am-9:41am Transition*

2<sup>nd</sup> Block 9:41am – 11:11am

*11:11am-11:17am Transition*

3<sup>rd</sup> Block 11:17am – 1:29pm

1<sup>st</sup> lunch 11:11am – 11:36am

2<sup>nd</sup> lunch 11:39am – 12:04pm

3<sup>rd</sup> lunch 12:07pm – 12:32pm

4<sup>th</sup> lunch 12:35pm – 1:00pm

5<sup>th</sup> lunch 1:03pm – 1:29pm (Magnet)

*1:29pm-1:35pm Transition*

4<sup>th</sup> Block 1:35pm – 3:05pm

### **Wellness Wednesday Schedule (as scheduled 1-2 times per month):**

Wellness Lesson 12:40pm – 1:03pm

Lunch 1:03pm– 1:29pm

### **Friday FLEX Period Schedule (1 to 2 Fridays per month):**

FLEX Period 12:15pm – 1:03pm

FLEX= Future Leadership Enrichment & eXtracurricular Period

Lunch 1:03pm– 1:29pm

\*Monday and Wednesday = A day \*Tuesday and Thursday = B day

\*Friday = Rotating A/B day

### **RCA Bus Release Times**

- 9:35am (Release at end of 1<sup>st</sup> period) [Bus leaves at 9:45am]
- 12:40pm (Students who have 5<sup>th</sup> lunch @RCHS are released to eat lunch @RCA) [Bus leaves at 12:45pm]
- 1:10pm (Release during 3<sup>rd</sup> period) [Bus leaves at 1:20pm]

# Homeroom List 2023-2024

Homeroom may be used occasionally throughout the year for grade-specific events or activities.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Homerooms: *Organized alphabetically*

<b>Teacher Name</b>	<b>Room #</b>	<b>Students with last name</b>
Darvishian	Room 802	Allen-Burrow
Williams	Room 824	Chandler- Hammonds
Coleman	Room 818	Harris-Ogar
Hornbeck	Room 829	Omosoto-Taggard
Wisnewski	Room 827	Tate-Young

## 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Homerooms: *Organized alphabetically*

<b>Teacher Name</b>	<b>Room #</b>	<b>Students with last name</b>
Sommer	Room 830	Alexander - Cornwall
DuFresne	Room 826	Dardy-Jones
Jones	Room 814	Kindell-Rodriguez Prieto
Seagraves	Room 815	Sales-Zakirova

## 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Homerooms: *Organized alphabetically*

<b>Teacher Name</b>	<b>Room #</b>	<b>Students with last name</b>
Robinson	Room 817	Akin - Flagg
Christie	Room 823	Floyd- Mateen
Powell	Room 811	McCoy - Rodgers
Garner	Room 803	Rojas - Wright

## 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Homerooms: *Organized alphabetically*

<b>Teacher Name</b>	<b>Room #</b>	<b>Students with last name</b>
Ullo	Room 828	Andries - Chandler
Matthews	Room 804	Christie - Hoyte
Kinsey	Room 812	James - Patel
Kennen	Room 816	Powell - Wells

## **Magnet Parent-Student Workshops**

*(format details and/or links will be announced at least 1 week prior to each event)*

August 17	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade: Senior Parent Meeting (Virtual via Teams)	6:00-7:30pm
September 7	9 <sup>th</sup> grade: Transition to High School (In-person @ Rockdale Magnet)	6:00-7:30pm
September 14	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade: Advanced Academic Support (Virtual via Teams)	6:00-7:30pm
September 14	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade: Support Strategies & College Prep (Virtual via Teams)	6:00-7:30pm
October 17	Eligible Student Night (In-person @ Rockdale Magnet)	5:00-8:00pm
November 16	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade: Advisement (Virtual via Teams)	6:00-7:30pm
December 14	9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Grades: Advisement (Virtual via Teams)	6:00-7:30pm
February 29	Rising 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Meeting: Advisement (Virtual via Teams)	6:00-7:30pm
March 21	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 12 <sup>th</sup> grade & College prep! (format TBD)	6:00-7:30pm

We request that all parents and students attend grade-level meetings on the specified dates above. These meetings will include a rotation of topics that will be designed to keep you informed and involved in magnet activities, decision-making, college planning, advisement, and course registration.

Families should read the weekly Magnet News sent via email and posted on the RMSST website, Twitter, and Facebook for announcements, upcoming events, and more!



## Key Magnet Events

*\*Details & any changes will be shared via weekly Magnet News sent via email, Facebook, and Twitter*

### Fall Semester 2023

#### August:

- First Day of School- Tuesday, August 1
- 9th grade & Peer Mentors only Flex - Friday, August 4 (12:40-1pm)
- Alumni Speakers Week - August 7-11
- Back to School StuCo Flex - Friday, August 11 (12:15-1pm)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Family-Student College Kick-Off Meeting- Thursday, August 17 (6-7:30pm via Teams)
- 12th grade College Readiness Retreat - Friday, August 18 (8am-3:05pm)
- Magnet Fund Movie Night - Friday, August 18 (3:15-7pm)
- AP Scholars Breakfast - Wednesday, August 23 (7:45am-8:20am)
- Find your Niche Club Fair Flex/Wellness Wednesday - Wednesday, August 23 (12:15-1pm)
- 9th grade & Peer Mentors only Flex - Friday, August 25 (12:15-1pm)

#### September:

- Independent Learning Day- Friday, September 1
- Labor Day (no school for students and teachers)- Monday, September 4
- Wellness Wednesday- Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> (12:40-1pm)
- 9th grade: Family-Student Meeting on Transition to High School & 9th grade Curriculum - Thursday, September 7 (6-7:30pm in-person)
- 9th grade & Peer Mentors only Flex - Friday, September 8 (12:15-1pm)
- Periodic Table & School Beautification Service Projects - Friday, September 8 (3:15-5pm)
- 11 Acts of Kindness Day @ RMSST – Monday, September 11
- 10th & 11th grade Family-Student Meetings - Thursday, September 14 (6-7:30pm)
- StuCo led Flex Assembly for Monster Dash & Clubs - Friday, September 15 (12:15-1pm)
- Wellness Wednesday- Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> (12:40-1pm)
- 9th grade & Peer Mentors only Flex - Friday, September 22 (12:15-1pm)
- Ambassadors Working Retreat- Friday, September 22 (11:16am-3:05pm)
- Pre-ACT for 10th Graders - Wednesday, September 27

#### October:

- October Break (no school for students and teachers)- October 2-6
- Homecoming Week- Starts October 9th
- SAT School Day for 12th grade - Wednesday, October 11
- PSAT & NMSQT for 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade- Wednesday, October 11 and Wednesday, October 18
- Flex for Fall Ball, Chem Week, & Red Ribbon Week - Friday, October 13 (12:15-1pm)
- Homecoming Game- Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> (7:30pm)

- Homecoming Dance- Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>
- National Chemistry Week - October 16-21
- Eligible Student Night - Tuesday, October 17 (5-8pm)
- 9th grade & Peer Mentors only Flex - Wednesday, October 18 (12:15-1pm)
- Fall Semester Student Wellness Summit - Friday, October 20 (12:15-1pm)
- Cape Day Celebration for Children's Healthcare - Friday, October 20
- Independent Learning Day- Monday, October 23
- Monster Dash 5K and Fun Run/Walk - Friday, October 27
- Rockdale Mathematics Tournament - Saturday, October 28
- Red Ribbon Week - October 23-31

#### November:

- 9th grade & Peer Mentors only Flex - Friday, November 3 (12:15-1pm)
- Teacher Workday/Conference Day- Tuesday, November 7
- Career Day Flex - Friday, November 10 (12:15-1pm)
- Magnet Fall Ball Dance - Saturday, November 11
- 11th Grade: Family-Student Advisement - Thursday, November 16 (6-7:30pm)
- Thanksgiving Break (no school for students and teachers) - November 20-24

#### December:

- 9th grade & Peer Mentors only Flex - Friday, December 1 (12:15-1pm)
- RMSST School Science Fair - Friday, December 8 (11:16am-1:03pm)
- 9th & 10th Grade Advisement Family-Student Meeting – Thursday, December 14
- Last Day of 1<sup>st</sup> semester & Early Release for HS- Friday, December 22
- December Break (no school for students and teachers)- December 25- January 3

#### **Spring Semester 2024:**

##### January:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Preplanning Days (no school for students)- January 4 & 5
- First Day of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester- Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>
- Student Leader Team Building Retreat – Friday, January 12
- MLK Day (no school for students and teachers)- Monday, January 15
- Decision emails sent to all applicants C/O 2028 - Friday, January 19
- Regional Science Fair - Friday, January 26
- Honor Roll Celebration - Wednesday, January 31

##### February:

- Acceptance Agreements due C/O 2028 - Thursday, February 1
- STUCO Working Retreat - Friday, February 2
- Black History Month Flex Assembly - Friday, February 9 (12:15-1pm)
- Heart Week - Feb 12-16
- Heart Week Flex - Friday, February 16 (12:15-1pm)

- February Break- February 19-23
- Virtual: Rising 9th Grade Parent/Student Advisement – Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup> (6-7:30pm)

March:

- Internship Appreciation & Showcase - Friday, March 1
- Wellness Summit Applications Due - Friday, March 1
- Pastries for Parents - Thursday, March 7 & Friday, March 8
- Talent Show - Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>
- Rock Your Socks Day @ RMSST - Tuesday, March 20
- 9th Grade Water Inequity Symposium - Wednesday, March 20 (8-9:30am)
- 11th Grade Family-Student Meeting: Senior Year & College Prep - Thursday, March 21
- Spring Semester Student Wellness Summit - Friday, March 22 (12:15-1pm)
- Teacher Workday/Conference Day- Friday, March 29

April:

- Spring Break - April 1-5
- 11th Grade: SAT School Day - Wednesday, April 10
- Georgia Science and Engineering Fair- April 12-13
- National Student Leadership Week - April 15-20
- Internship Interview Day - Tuesday, April 16 (8-9:30am)
- TedX- Thursday, April 18 (3:15-4:30pm)
- Magnet Family Picnic & Field Day- Thursday, April 18 (5-7pm)

April (continued):

- Flex for National Student Leadership Week - Friday, April 19
- Magnet Calculus Competition - Saturday, April 20
- EOC Tests – April 29-May 3
- Freshman Poster Session & 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade Awards – Tuesday, April 30

May:

- AP Exams - May 6-17
- Magnet Senior Awards Banquet - Friday, May 10
- Last Day of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester- Friday, May 24

Summer RMSST Events 2024:

- Rising 9th Grade - Summer Adventure - Wednesday, May 29
- RCPS Leadership Summit – May 30 & 31
- STEAM Camp @ RMSST - June 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>
- Magnet Jump Start for 9th grade - July 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

# General Policies and Procedures

## Campus Hours & Building Logistics

1. The building officially opens at 7:30am and closes at 3:15pm. If you are in the building before or after these times, then you must be with a specific teacher or sponsor for a specific purpose.
  - All students staying after school for extracurricular activities, office hours, tutorial sessions, etc. must be picked up within 15 minutes of the ending time of the activity. All students will be asked to wait outside for their parents after 3:15pm or at the conclusion of after-school activities.
  - Getting extra help from teachers is important. If you are struggling academically, it is important to seek help before you get too far behind. Attending afterschool office hours and tutorial sessions is encouraged as well as asking questions during class.
2. Students should report directly to the cafetorium if arriving before 7:50am. After 7:50am students should go directly to their first period classroom.
3. Breakfast & Lunch:
  - Students wishing to purchase meals must do so from the RCHS cafeteria. Please note that no food is served at Magnet.
  - Grab-n-Go Breakfast is served in the RCHS cafeteria and the RCHS front lobby until 8:00am. If you arrive on a late bus, visit the RCHS front office for a breakfast pass.
  - Each teacher is assigned a 25-minute lunch period. Your 3<sup>rd</sup> block teachers will inform you of your assigned lunch period.
  - All students are expected to report to the RCHS Cafetorium (any students) or Magnet Cafetorium (option for students in a Magnet 3<sup>rd</sup> block class who brought their lunch) for their assigned lunch period and remain there for the entire lunch period. Those are the only two approved lunch locations.
  - Students are not allowed to order or receive lunch for delivery to school.
    - No meal delivery services (Uber, Door Dash, etc) are allowed for campus security.
    - If a household member brings you a lunch it must be left in the Magnet office. The clerk will email the student and teacher to let them know it has been left but will not interrupt class. Items a household member drops off from restaurants or in restaurant packaging must be eaten at Magnet during the lunch period.
    - Students who go off campus for internship or RCA are expected to travel directly between campuses. No outside food purchased in transition will be allowed.
  - Students are not allowed to leave campus to purchase lunch and return.

## Code of Conduct and Behavior

4. Students must sign and abide by the RCPS Student Code of Conduct. The RCHS Tardy Policy and Dress Code will be enforced. Students may be withdrawn from RMSST for disciplinary reasons. Violations of the following sections of the RCPS Student Code of Conduct may result in immediate long-term suspension from school and withdrawal from Magnet: Alcohol, Bullying, Drug, Sexual Misconduct, and Weapons.
5. Students must sign and abide by the Magnet Honor Code. Students may be withdrawn from RMSST as a result of Honor Code violations.
6. Students must sign and abide by the RCPS Technology Usage Agreement. Any student using the school computers for unauthorized purposes or using another student's login may lose computer privileges.

## Dress Code

1. The Rockdale County School System has a district-wide dress code. The complete text of this code can be found in the Rockdale County Code of Student Conduct and Discipline. The purpose of the dress code is to restrict styles of dress which create a disruption or interference with classroom activities. The RCHS Dress code include these provisions:
  - Obscene pictures, symbols, or depictions of illegal drugs, tobacco products, or alcoholic beverages shall not appear on clothing.
  - Students are not allowed to wear hats or headgear inside the building.
  - Students are not allowed to wear slides to school.
  - No short shorts/no mini-skirts (shorts or skirts must reach the finger tips)
  - Leggings are only allowed if a shirt or dress is worn that reaches the finger tips.
  - Extremely baggy pants and oversized shirts are not allowed.
  - Low-cut blouses, low-cut dresses, or low-cut shirts are not allowed.
  - Any shirt or blouse that is sleeveless must have a collar.
  - Any shirt or blouse that does not have a collar must have sleeves.
  - No tank tops.
  - Bare midriffs are not allowed.
  - Spandex pants/skirts are not allowed.
  - No immodest or extreme fashion is permitted.
  - Pants, shorts must be worn at the waist.
  - No ripped jeans unless something is worn underneath that is not flesh covered to prevent skin from showing.
  - No jeans with large holes regardless if the skin is not showing.

- No flip flops or slides.
  - Any clothing considered inappropriate by the administrators will not be allowed and will result in consequences.
2. Students with dress code violations will be asked to call home for a change of clothing to be brought to the school on the first occasion. If someone is not available to do so, the student will have the opportunity to borrow an item from the professional dress closet or be sent to ISS for the remainder of the day. Repeat offenders will be dealt with individually by an administrator using the consequences outlined in the RCPS Parent Handbook which includes in-school and potential out-of-school suspension.

## **Tardies & Attendance**

### 1. Tardies:

- I. Students must arrive in their assigned classroom no later than 8:05 am each morning.
    - a. If a student is tardy to school but arrives before 8:20am, they will report directly to class. The student will be marked tardy by the teacher.
    - b. If a student arrives after 8:20am, the student must check-in at the front office. The student will be marked tardy (excused or unexcused) by the office staff and will be given a pass to class.
  - II. Tardies will be marked as unexcused unless the student has a written excuse note from a parent stating that the student was ill, at a doctor's appointment, etc.
  - III. Students are expected to arrive on time for each class. If a student who was already present for school arrives after the tardy bell, the teacher will record a tardy in Infinite Campus. See Check-in procedures for information on late arrivals to campus.
    - a. If a student is more than 15 minutes late to class, the teacher will submit a discipline referral for skipping.
  - IV. Tardy reports will be run daily, and consequences will be assigned for overall cumulative tardies as follows. Administrative contracts will be issued at the 5<sup>th</sup> tardy outlining preventive steps and consequences for continued violations. Students failing to fulfill the assigned consequence will receive additional consequences as determined by the administrator. Transportation is the responsibility of the parent whose child is assigned to detention.
2. Attendance: Students must be in their assigned class each period. If you must leave the classroom, a hall pass must be given by the teacher. If you are not in your assigned class and do not have teacher permission to be out of class, then you are considered skipping (RCPS Code of Conduct 10.2, 1-10 days suspension).

3. Check In: If a student arrives to school any time after 8:20 AM they are currently marked absent in their class and need to be checked into school. The student will sign the check-in/check-out log in the front office and turn in any documentation (doctor's excuses, court papers, written notes, etc.) to the Attendance folder. The front office will give the student a "check-in pass" that will allow them admission to class. If written documentation is provided it will be an excused check-in, if not, it will be an unexcused check-in. This information and the time of arrival will be entered in Infinite Campus.
4. Check-Outs: Students who will be checking out during the day must bring a note to the Magnet Office before school starts stating the reason for check-out and listing the name and phone number of a parent or guardian who can be contacted. A copy of a guardian's driver's license or other government ID must be provided to the school when the note is verified for a student to check themselves out. Parents may also come into the magnet office to check students out. Students will only be called from class once a parent is in the Magnet office. Students are not permitted to check out of school during lunch to go off campus for lunch. Checkouts will be counted as tardies; only reasons listed for excused absences can be counted as excused tardies. No check-outs are permitted after 2:45pm.
5. Students cannot leave campus during the school day without following the check-out protocol. Students may not leave campus for lunch. The only exception to the check-out protocol are students going to a class at Rockdale Career Academy or for their internship off campus. Teachers will share instructions for leaving campus with these students.
6. Students leaving and coming into the class are distractions to the learning process. Therefore, we discourage students from leaving school during the day, and we encourage parents to schedule appointments for students at times other than school hours.
7. A student must bring an excused absence note to the magnet office within 3 school days of their return to school. Otherwise, it will automatically be recorded as an unexcused absence.
8. Students will be allowed two excused absences for college visits. Please notify your counselor and teachers in advance of your planned absence. The student must provide documentation of the visit from the school upon return. Any visits beyond two are considered unexcused absences per RCPS Board Policy JB; however, you are permitted and encouraged to complete all Magnet make-up work. Arrangements for RCHS make-up work must be made with the teacher directly. For Magnet senior exam exemptions, documented college and scholarship visits will not count in a student's total absence number.

## School Safety

1. Fire drills will be held twice during the first two weeks of school and once each month for the remainder of the school year.
2. Evacuation routes are posted in every classroom.
3. When an alarm sounds, every student is expected to follow the instructions given by the teacher and to proceed in a calm, orderly manner to your designated area.
4. An intruder drill will be conducted at least once annually.
5. If the school is placed on lockdown, all doors will be locked. Any students, faculty, or staff in the hallway should proceed to the nearest classroom or office for shelter. All persons will be required to stay in place until the lockdown has been lifted. Do not open the door for any reason.
6. All RCPS guidelines for mitigation of infectious disease will be followed. Families will be informed of any changes in expectations should they occur. For the start of school, the following mitigation strategies are in place:
  - Hand sanitizing stations are available and should be used frequently
  - Frequent hand washing should happen during breaks and in classrooms as available
  - Increased cleaning protocols are being followed by our custodial staff

## Absences and Make-up Work

9. A student must bring an excused absence note to the Magnet office, or email to [magnetoffice@rockdale.k12.ga.us](mailto:magnetoffice@rockdale.k12.ga.us) within 3 school days of their return to school. Otherwise, it will automatically be recorded as an unexcused absence.
10. Work due during an unexcused absence will count as a zero unless a student completes the late work process as required for that class.
  - Students have a minimum of 2 school days from the original due date to submit the late work.
  - All late work submission ends five school days prior to the first exam day.
  - Long-term assignments (those worked on over two weeks or longer) are due as assigned (see number 13 below for more information).
11. When student absences are excused, students will be allowed to make up their work during their absence. Students who have an excused absence should initiate arrangements for completion of missed assignments with teachers on the first day they return. The teacher will determine deadlines for completion of assignments at this time. Students, not teachers, are responsible for obtaining missed assignments. Students are encouraged to ask for work in advance if there is a planned absence. This also applies to absences due to a school-related function.



12. Work assigned before an excused absence occurs must be turned in on the first day of your return to school (see below for long-term assignments). This also applies to absences due to a school-related function.
13. Long-term assignments (those worked on over two weeks or longer) are due as assigned and not eligible for a late work submission form; a student is responsible for this due date even if absent. All long-term assignments will include progress checks during the work period for the project. If a student has not made progress at the check point, then teachers will notify parents.

### **Enrollment and Academic Expectations**

1. Students are committed to attending RMSST for four years unless the Magnet Director and RCPS Assistant Superintendent grant a transfer approval.
2. Students may only withdraw from RMSST at the beginning or end of a semester if approved by the Magnet Director and RCPS Assistant Superintendent. Students who are not zoned for RCHS but wish to remain at RCHS must complete a waiver application with the Office of Teaching and Learning. A committee meets regularly to review these applications.
3. Academic interventions are an important part of Magnet life. Magnet Teachers/Counselors /Administrators conduct meetings with students and parents. Students will be placed on academic support contact if one or more of their semester grades are less than 75%. A student may be removed from academic support contact if all grades are 80% or higher at midterm. Students on academic support contact are required to attend student led conferences with administration twice a semester to set goals and check-in on current progress.
4. Students will be withdrawn from RMSST if they fail one or more courses in a semester. This does include non-magnet classes. Students may appeal this policy if he/she has completed all support contract requirements or if there are substantial extenuating circumstances which have negatively impacted the student's academic achievement. In this case, an Appeal Hearing is held and a final decision is determined by the Appeal Board. Students may not appeal if they have failed more than two classes and/or have not completed academic support contract requirements. An appeal request is allowed only once per student throughout the four years.
5. RMSST extracurricular clubs and teams may each have participation rules, and students are expected to maintain a 70% or higher in all classes throughout the semester to remain in good standing with their extracurricular organizations.

## Final Exams

1. Final exams are given at the end of the semester and count the percentage set in RCPS Board of Education policy. Students in Biology, Coordinate Algebra, US History, and American Literature are required to take the Georgia Milestone Assessment at the end of the course.
2. Students will not be permitted to take final exams early. Students will only be permitted to take late exams if the absences are excused and permission has been obtained from an administrator.
3. Final Exam Exemption:
  - a. Students may exempt final exams only if all of the conditions below have been met for an individual course.
    - Students must have an 85 or above
    - Five or fewer unexcused tardies per course per semester
    - Less than four unexcused absences across the whole semester
    - Three or fewer major referrals per semester for all classes combined
4. Students earn eligibility to exempt each individual exam. An exemption in one course is not a guarantee of exemption in other courses.
5. Students may not exempt state mandated milestone end of course exams under any circumstances. Courses with mandated end of course exams are: Biology, Coordinate Algebra, US History, and American Literature

## Parent Involvement

1. All parents are requested to attend grade level meetings as scheduled, Magnet Banquet, and extracurricular activities in which your student participates throughout the year. Your presence and support makes a difference in your child's academic achievement.
2. We request that all families participate in social and fundraising events coordinated by the Rockdale Magnet Fund, Inc. The Fund membership dues are collected at Open House.

# **Academic Honor Code**

## **Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology**

### **Part I: Purpose of the Honor Code**

The members of the Rockdale Magnet School Community believe that the fundamental objective of the Institution is to provide the students with a high-quality education while developing in them a sense of ethics and social responsibility. We believe that trust is an integral part of the learning process and that self-discipline is necessary in this pursuit. We also believe that any instance of dishonesty hurts the entire community. It is with this in mind that we have set forth a Student Honor Code at the Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology.

### **Part II: The Honor Pledge**

As a member of the Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology, I understand the objective of the institution is to provide high school students with a high-quality education which fosters academic integrity, scientific ethics, and social responsibility. I pledge and accept my responsibility as a member of the Rockdale Magnet School Community to rigorously uphold and to abide unconditionally by the Honor Code at all times. I promise that I will not participate in any form of academic misconduct. In addition, I understand it is my responsibility to hold others to these same standards and it is my duty to report honor code violations as defined in the code.

### **Part III: Definitions**

Academic dishonesty is a critical offense at the Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology. Without regard to motive, conduct that is academically dishonest consists of:

- a. Cheating – intentionally using, attempting to use, or possessing unauthorized materials, information, technology, or study aids in any academic exercise
- b. Plagiarism – unintentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of someone else without properly acknowledging the source; unintentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate any provision of this Code
- c. Fabrication and Falsification – includes but not limited to inventing experimental data or changing experimental data of any information or citation in an academic exercise
- d. Recycling Fraud- The reuse of significant, identical, or nearly identical portions of one's own work without acknowledging that one is doing so or citing the original work is a form of “self-plagiarism”. This includes submitting an assignment for credit in multiple classes without informing the teachers.

### **Part IV: Outline of Protocol for Misconduct**

A collection of evidence is used in academic misconduct cases at Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology. Each case must be proven by a preponderance of evidence, more commonly known as the “more likely than not” standard of proof.

- a. In the event that a violation is observed or suspected, the teacher/student will make a written statement at the request of the Assistant Director.

- b. The Assistant Director will speak with the accused student to gather information and notify parents.
- c. The Assistant Director will lead the investigation and present evidence to the Honor Code Council.
- d. If after investigating the Assistant Director determines the situation could be a violation then the Honor Code Council will schedule a hearing. The hearing will be held within five school days.
  - I. If the student confesses and the Assistant Director agrees with the student assessment that the student violated honor code, then at the Assistant Director's discretion a consequence may be issued for first violations without a full Honor Code Council. First time violations, even with an admission of violation, can go to the Honor Code Council if deemed necessary.
2. The Honor Code Council shall review the evidence, interpret the Honor Code, and administer consequences for Honor Code violations. The Honor Code Council will be composed of at least 3 of the following members:
  - Magnet administrator
  - Magnet teachers (other than current teachers of the accused student)
  - RCHS administrators
  - Magnet student representatives
  - Magnet alumni

## **Part V: Consequences**

Penalties that may be imposed include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Zero on assignment/quizzes/test/project/lab
- b) Re-do assignment/quizzes/test/project/lab
- c) Academic Integrity Paper
- d) Administrative Detention
- e) Community Service Hours
- f) In School Suspension (ISS)
- g) Notation on permanent record
- h) A second violation will automatically result in notification of academic dishonesty to colleges and universities during the application process.
- i) A third violation will result in the student's removal from the Rockdale Magnet School and transfer to zoned high school at the end of the semester.

*Adapted from the Honor Codes of Agnes Scott, Georgia College, Georgia Tech, Rice University, Southern Polytechnic State University, Thomas Jefferson High School, University of Georgia, and Young Harris College (2012)*

## Acceptable Conduct for School Functions

The Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology is committed to creating and maintaining an environment in which all persons who participate in off-campus school functions feel safe and comfortable. All participants are expected to conduct themselves professionally and exhibit exemplary behavior during school functions as they are representing our school, district, and community. Please review the following expectations:

1. All RCPS, RCHS, and RMSST rules apply during off-campus school functions.
2. Possession or consumption of any form of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substance (by Georgia law) will not be tolerated. Any student found to have abused this rule will be sent home immediately at their parent's expense and suspended from school with possible recommendation for expulsion.
3. When students are divided into specific groups, you are to stay with that group without exception! At no time are you to be out in public by yourself. Always use the "buddy system".
4. You are responsible for keeping up with your own money and belongings. Do not leave your items lying around anywhere, including in your room.
5. All students are expected to attend all events, whether you are participating or not. Keep a copy of your itinerary and rules and regulations with you at all times. Please follow your itinerary closely, being early for all departures.
6. Chaperones reserve the right to enter and search any student's room or belongings at any time without warning.
7. Always wear appropriate attire and display behavior that is representative of any RMSST student. Jeans, shorts, and/or flip flops should never be worn unless prior approval has been granted. Controversial clothing such as spaghetti straps, tank tops, frayed clothing, and clothing advertising alcohol, drugs, profanity, and sexual pictures is unacceptable. Students will be asked to change if this problem occurs.
8. There shall be no public display of affection (PDA) at any time.
9. Cell phones and other devices should not be used during activities or after curfew.
10. Females and males should never be in the same hotel room, dorm room, etc. If this occurs, the student(s) will be dismissed from the event. All expenses for the student to return home will be the responsibility of the child's family.
11. All students must remain in their assigned area (hotel room, dorm, host family's home, etc.) after curfew. If students are found outside of their rooms after curfew, they will be excused from the event. All expenses for the student to return home will be the responsibility of the child's family.

# Magnet Graduation Requirements

All students must successfully complete, at a minimum, the following courses in order to receive a Magnet Diploma:

- AP Environmental Science
- Magnet Biology
- Magnet Chemistry
- AP Physics C
- Four magnet mathematics units with a minimum of one unit of Magnet Calculus
- Three units of Magnet Research
- Four English/Language Arts credits to include 2 units of Magnet English
- One senior specialized elective credit: Microbiology, Organic Chemistry, AP Computer Science, Mathematics in Industry and Government, History of Mathematics, Oceanography, or Astronomy (*other courses may be added to this list at the discretion of the Magnet Director*)
- Four units of Social Studies- American Gov't, World History, US History, and Economics
- Half unit of Health and half unit of Personal Fitness
- Two units of the same World Language
- One unit of senior capstone credit: Scientific Internship or Research IV
- One unit Magnet Technology Course

**Class Rank** is determined by each student's weighted GPA.

**Honor Graduates** will be defined as Cum Laude (3.5-3.69), Magna Cum Laude (3.7-3.89), and Summa Cum Laude (3.9+). Weighted GPA is used to determine these honors.

## Magnet Valedictorian and Salutatorian:

Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be decided based upon the RCPS Board Policy IHD-R.

1. Each school and Magnet program will have a Valedictorian and Salutatorian at graduation.
2. The Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be determined as follows:
  - a. Be identified as a Board Scholar.
  - b. Have been enrolled in the awarding high school for a minimum of two years, which is defined as four full, consecutive semesters. Students must be enrolled prior to the 10th day of Fall semester for the semester to be included in the 4 semester requirement.
  - c. Be identified based on the highest and second highest weighted GPA.
  - d. Designees shall be determined at the end of first semester after grades have been posted.
  - e. In the event of a tie (a matching GPA):
    - i. For the first tie-breaker, the students will be identified based on the highest and second highest numeric average.

- ii. For the second tie-breaker, the students will be identified based on the highest and second highest total SAT score.
3. The principal reserves the final decision as to whether there shall be speakers at graduation ceremonies and, if any, who they shall be. This honor does not go automatically to the Valedictorian and/or Salutatorian.
4. Valedictorians and Salutatorians shall be recognized and shall have the opportunity to have an active part in graduation ceremonies.

**To remain in good standing, students must:**

- Follow all rules and regulations of RMSST & RCHS. Abide by the Magnet Honor Code.
- All grades must be 75% or above in all classes. If a student has a grade of 70-74%, then he/she will be placed on an academic support contract.
- If a student has a grade below 70% at the end of a semester in any class, then they will be withdrawn from RMSST. At this time, any student who is not zoned for RCHS will return to the school for which they are zoned.

## **RCPS Grading Scale**

The RCPS grading scale has been revised to reflect the following:

- A= 90-100 (4 quality points)
- B= 80-89 (3 quality points)
- C= 70-79 (2 quality points)
- F= 69 and below

## How to Calculate Your GPA

### Un-weighted GPA:

- Assign a value to each grade on your transcript
  - A = 4
  - B = 3
  - C = 2
  - D = 1
  - F = 0
- Calculate the total of these points
- Divide this sum by the number of courses on the transcript

### Weighted GPA:

- Assign a value to each grade associated with a course on your transcript that is NOT weighted
  - A = 4
  - B = 3
  - C = 2
  - D = 1
  - F = 0
- Assign a value to each grade associated with a weighted course on your transcript
  - A = 5.2
  - B = 4.2
  - C = 3.2
  - D = 2.2
  - F = 0
- Calculate the total of these points
- Divide this sum by the number of courses on the transcript

### HOPE GPA:

- Your HOPE GPA is calculated based on grades earned in the core subject areas only. Everything is on the un-weighted scale except for AP courses which count an A=4.5, B=3.5, etc.
- Not all courses on your transcript are used to calculate your HOPE GPA
- Set up an account at [www.gacollege411.org](http://www.gacollege411.org) to view your estimated HOPE GPA

*Class Rank is determined by your weighted GPA*



## Who Do I Contact When a Problem Arises?

- The first point of contact for any issues that are related to grades or teacher-student conflicts should be the classroom teacher. If the issue is not resolved, contact the Assistant Director, Dr. Lynette Clark. If he/she cannot solve the problem or answer your questions, then the situation will be referred to Mrs. Amanda Baskett.
- Contact your student's counselor if you have questions or concerns related to social and emotional learning, college and career preparation, scheduling, and/or advisement.
  - Ms. Myrissa Lindsey- all students with last name A through J
  - Ms. Jennifer Harris- all students with last name K through Z
- Contact the Assistant Director with any issues that are related to classroom discipline. If the Assistant Director cannot solve the problem or answer your questions, then he will refer the situation to the Director, Mrs. Amanda Baskett, and/or a RCHS administrator.
- Contact the Assistant Director with any issues that are related to the magnet curriculum. If the Assistant Director cannot answer your questions, then he will refer the situation to the Director, Mrs. Amanda Baskett, and/or a RCHS School administrator.
- Contact Mrs. Stephanie Bradford, Magnet Admissions Secretary, with any issues that are related to various Magnet events such as the Magnet College Trips, Magnet Selection Process, Family Picnic, Awards Banquet, and Summer Adventure.
- Contact Mr. Scott Bolen with questions about science fairs, research, or internship class.
- Contact Ms. Kelly Leihy, Magnet Tech Support, if you have any problems with or questions about your Dell laptops. The Technology office is located in the Innovation Hive.
- Contact Mr. Josh Dyer or Ms. Felicia Andrews, Digital Learning Specialists, if you have any problems accessing Infinite Campus, itsLearning, or the school website.
- Contact Ms. Natacha Simon-Christie, President of Magnet Fund, Inc or Ms. Stephanie Kabance with any questions related to the Rockdale Magnet Fund, Inc.

We ask that you contact these individuals first before contacting central office staff, school board members, or Rockdale County High School administrators so that we are made aware of the problems and are given a chance to solve them.

## Contact Information

Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology

Phone: (770) 483-8737

Fax: (770) 483-7379

Address: 930 Rowland Road Conyers, GA 30012

Website: <http://www.magnet.rockdaleschools.org/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/rockdalemagnet> @RockdaleMagnet

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RockdaleMagnet>

### *Administration and Staff:*

Amanda Baskett, Director

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Dr. Lynette Clark, Assistant Director

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Jennifer Harris, Magnet Counselor

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Myrissa Lindsey, Magnet Counselor

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Beth Dire, Bookkeeper

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Stephanie Bradford, Admissions Secretary

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Ashley Jackson, Registrar

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### *Faculty:*

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Mrs. Susan Powell

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Mr. David Hornbeck

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Mrs. Kimberly Wisnewski  
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Mr. Michael Sommer  
[msommer@rockdale.k12.ga.us](mailto:msommer@rockdale.k12.ga.us)

## **Magnet Extracurricular Opportunities**

1. Colleges and universities want to see that you have been *actively involved* in extra-curricular activities. This means that you should choose a few activities and stick with them for several years. Show that you are an involved member!
2. It is also important to hold leadership positions (officer, chairperson, etc.) within these organizations.
3. The clubs and teams at Magnet are organized into four broad categories: Academic, Enrichment, Service and Advocacy, and Leadership.
4. Students are encouraged to work toward becoming a Bulldog Scholar by their senior year through two or more years of dedicated involvement in both a Magnet and RCHS extracurricular activity.
5. Students in the Rockdale County Schools must meet certain requirements in order to participate in extra-curricular activities. These requirements are determined by the Rockdale Board of Education, the Georgia Department of Education and the Georgia High School Association. A student must meet the requirements of ALL these agencies to be eligible for participation in ANY extra-curricular activity that includes interscholastic competition.

### **ACADEMIC TEAMS & CLUBS**

#### **Magnet Book Club & Reading Bowl - Mrs. Wisnewski**

The Book Club meets monthly to discuss popular books of interest. Any student that enjoys reading for leisure should attend.

#### **Magnet Green Team –Ms. Seagraves and Dr. Clark**

The Magnet Green team allows students to apply environmental science knowledge. The team focuses on sustainability, gardening, and other projects to support protecting the environment.

### **Magnet, Inc. – Mr. Robinson**

This is a group for inspiring entrepreneurs that meet to develop business ideas and innovate in their respective fields.

### **Rockdale Magnet Math Team – Dr. Garner**

Students in grades 9-12 are invited to participate on the Math Team. Students enrolled in Math I and Math II can join the Junior Varsity Team; all other students are eligible for the Varsity Team. There is no special selection process. Students are simply required to attend one practice per week. The Math Team participates in contests and tournaments throughout the fall and spring semesters. The contests are done in-house; that is, the Math Team Sponsor (or designee) proctors the students and then mails in the results. The tournaments take place off-campus at various high schools and universities. Each participant's performance on each contest and tournament is ranked and converted to points. The sum of all points earned is the factor by which Math Team performance is judged. Math Team students have the potential to earn an athletic letter.

### **Robotics, Engineering, & Computers Science (RECS) Team – Mrs. Williams**

This team will participate in robotics, engineering, and computer science competitions with opportunities to use the engineering design process to address real problems.

### **Rockdale Magnet Science Team – Ms. Kennen and Mrs. Jones**

The Magnet Science Team participates in numerous competitions such as Science Bowl, USA Biology Olympiad, Envirothon, and US National Chemistry Olympiad. Students are able to apply and build their science skills in fun, collaborative setting.

### **Magnet Speech and Debate Team – Mrs. Ullo**

The Speech and Debate Team is a speech and debate oriented team. Members compete in everything from debates on government policy to writing speeches in short periods of time. We compete at many tournaments throughout the state each year. There is an event available for you if you like public speaking.

## **ENRICHMENT CLUBS & TEAMS**

### **Magnet Association of Artists - Mr. Sommer**

This club is an organization whose goal is to incorporate more artistic elements into all Magnet extracurricular activities and to enhance the artistic abilities of members.

### **Magnet Camera Club - Mr. Robinson**

This club works to document Magnet events and develop the annual Memory Book. Students practice their photography and digital layout skills in a social environment.

### **Magnet The Gathering – Mrs. Kinsey**

Magnet the Gathering is a club for students who enjoy strategy gaming. Students and sponsors bring in various board and card games every week that help students with memory, logic, and forward thinking.

### **eSports Club –Mr. Darvishian**

The eSports club plays multiple computer and video games for recreation and community building.

### **LEADERSHIP** *(leadership opportunities also exist within each club/team)*

### **Magnet Ambassador Program – Mrs. Baskett**

The Ambassador Program was established in 2009 to provide an opportunity for students to serve as leaders in our school community. Students with excellent communication skills and the ability to interact with both students and adults are encouraged to get involved. Ambassadors are responsible for serving as tour guides during school visits, making presentations at elementary and middle schools across the district, and participating in outreach events. Applications are available in December.

### **Magnet Peer Mentoring Program – Ms. Harris and Ms. Lindsey**

The Peer Mentoring Program was established in 2004 as a means of creating a support system for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students entering the Magnet School. Rising 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students apply for the mentoring positions and are selected based on their grades and leadership characteristics. The mentors are responsible for planning and executing activities for Summer Adventure as well as scheduling other social events and meetings with their peer group. At the meetings, the mentors speak to the students about getting acclimated to high school and magnet school life. They check on their lockers, school supplies, organizational habits, time management skills, and social adjustment as well as their academic progress. Applications are typically available in December each year.

### **Magnet Peer Tutors – Ms. Lindsey**

Applications to be a peer tutor are distributed in August each year to current 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. One or more peer tutors will be selected for mathematics and AP Sciences and will work closely with the teacher to determine tutoring needs, activities, and so forth. Students who work well with others and have strong content knowledge and the ability to explain information clearly are encouraged to apply.

### **Magnet Student Council – Mrs. Powell**

Student Council is a student organization that seeks to unify and recognize the efforts of RMSST's leadership, academic, and service communities. Student council organizes Back to School Week, Heart Week, and National Student Leadership Week. They are responsible for planning whole school recognition Flex assemblies and also put on an annual Fall Ball.

### **Magnet News Show- Ms. Seagraves**

Magnet News show creates multimedia content to keep students and all stakeholders informed and entertained.

## **SERVICE & ADVOCACY CLUBS**

### **Magnet Asian American and Pacific Islanders STEM Student Union - Mrs. Baskett**

The Asian American and Pacific Islanders STEM Student Union meets to embrace culture and to support the empowerment of AAPI students in not only their daily life but future STEM careers.

### **Magnet Black Student STEM Union - Ms. Harris and Ms. Lindsey**

The purpose of this organization is to help students strive for academic excellence, promote positive images of African Americans and help students become an integral part of a STEM community. Students plan Black History month activities and community service projects for the school.

### **Magnet Gay-Straight Alliance – Mrs. Wisnewski**

Gay-Straight Alliance is a social networking organization that promotes diversity, inclusion, and acceptance throughout the school and community and provides a safe, non-judgmental space in support of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersexed, questioning, and straight youth who share a common vision.

### **LatinX - Mrs. Baskett**

LatinX is a student led organization created to support the Latino community within Rockdale County. The club also serves to spread knowledge and awareness of Latino culture and traditions while also encouraging the Latino community to pursue STEM.

### **Sophisticated Men of Excellence – Mr. Coleman**

This club is designed for young men who would like to focus on serving our school and community while also building leadership and communication skills. The

Sophisticated Men of Excellence members assist with a variety of projects and serve as positive role models.

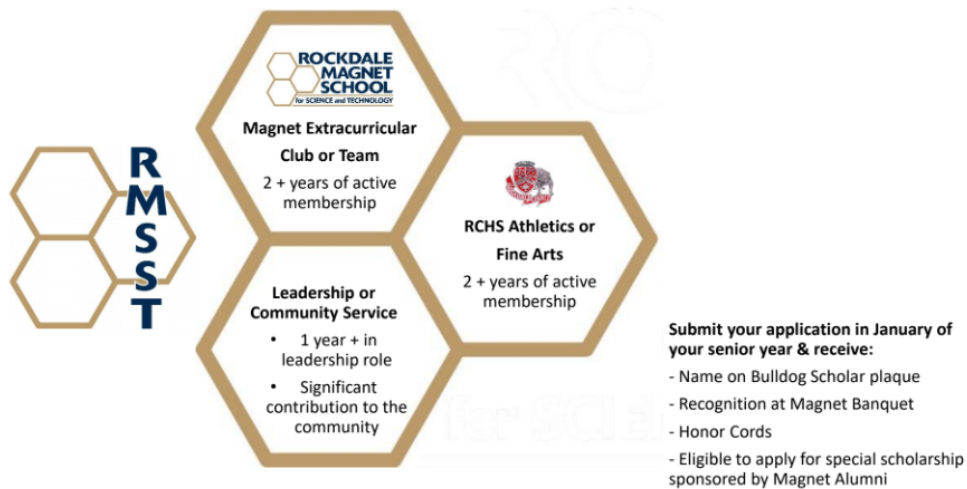
**Women on the Way to Success – Mrs. Jones**

This club is designed for young women who would like to focus on serving our school and community while also building leadership and communication skills. WOWS members assist with a variety of projects and serve as positive female role models.

**Beta Lambda Tau –Ms. Matthews and Dr. Clark**

Freshman Honor Society

**Bulldog Scholars & RCHS Extracurriculars**  
Challenge Yourself to be a Bulldog Scholar



# Rockdale Magnet Fund, Inc.

The Official RMSST Academic Booster Club

[www.rockdalemagnetfund.com](http://www.rockdalemagnetfund.com)

## Meetings:

August 8	6:00 pm-7:30pm	February 6	6:00 pm-7:30pm
September 5	6:00 pm-7:30pm	March 5	6:00 pm-7:30pm
October 10	6:00 pm-7:30pm	April 9	6:00pm-7:30pm
November 14	6:00 pm-7:30pm	April 18	Annual Business Meeting at Picnic
December 5	6:00 pm-7:30pm	May 7	6:00 pm-7:30pm
January 9	6:00 pm-7:30pm		

If there are any changes to the schedule above, it will be shared in a Magnet News email. Meetings are generally held via Teams from 6-7:30pm.

## Dues:

All magnet families are requested to pay their annual dues of \$220 to gain membership and benefits of fund-sponsored activities. (Among other things, annual dues support all Magnet extracurricular Clubs & Teams. Fund dues are also used to fund the Fall Ball, materials for research projects, field trips, travel to various competitions, etc.)

## Examples of Social & Celebration Events Sponsored by the Fund:

Movie Night	Magnet Talent Show
Magnet Fall Ball Dance	Pastries for Parents
Honor Roll Celebration	Award Nights & Senior Banquet

## Fundraising Events: *Families are requested to participate in at least 3 fundraiser*

- Monster Dash 5K and Fun Run/Walk (October)
- Poinsettia Sale (November)
- Spring Fundraiser (March)
- Restaurant Spirit Nights
- Popcorn Sales (Fall & Spring options planned)

## Committees: *Magnet families are asked to participate in at least one committee*

- Fundraising Committee
- Hospitality and Teacher Appreciation Committee (Chair: Julia Herth)
- Scholarship Committee (Co-Chairs: Myrissa Lindsey & Jennifer Harris)
- Finance Committee (Chair: Landra Jeffries-French)

## Officers:

- President: Natacha Simon-Christie
- Vice-President: Tanisha Chandler
- Secretary: Keisha Hudson
- Accounts Receivable Treasurer: Benita Edwards
- Accounts Payable Treasurer: Landra Jeffries-French



## **STUDENT NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Rockdale County Board of Education (“Board”) prohibits unlawful discrimination against students because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or other protected group status or activity (e.g. opposition to prohibited discrimination or participation in the statutory complaint process) in its programs and activities or employment in its programs or activities. In keeping with this commitment, the Board will not tolerate harassment, discrimination, or other unlawful treatment of its students. It is the policy of the Board to comply fully with the requirements of Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act and all accompanying regulations.

Please see Rockdale County Public Schools “Student Non-Discrimination Policy and Complaint Procedure” (JAA) section, or see Board policy at [www.rockdaleschools.org](http://www.rockdaleschools.org).

For any questions regarding Title IX, or to submit a formal complaint, please contact the school-based deputy Title IX Coordinator for students in person, or by mail, email, or phone: Dr. Lynette Clark, Assistant Director, 930 Rowland Road, Conyers, Georgia 30012, Phone: (770) 483-8737, Email: [lclark@rockdale.k12.ga.us](mailto:lclark@rockdale.k12.ga.us).



## Handbook Signature Page

Please read the RMSST Student-Family Handbook  
([www.magnet.rockdaleschools.org](http://www.magnet.rockdaleschools.org))  
then sign and return this signature page to the  
Magnet Front Office by Friday, August 11th

- I have read and understand the contents of the 2023-2024 Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology **Parent-Student Handbook** which is posted on our school website and agree to adhere to the policies and procedures as stated.
- I have read and understand the contents of the 2023-2024 Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology **Academic Honor Code** of the RMSST Parent-Student Handbook.
- I have read and agree to adhere to the guidelines set forth by the Rockdale Magnet School **Acceptable Conduct for School Functions** of the RMSST Parent-Student Handbook.

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Guardian Signature Date

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature Date