



November 1, 2021
End of Marking Period 1

**OUR MISSION IS STUDENT SUCCESS...
ACADEMIC, ARTISTIC, AND HUMANISTIC**

Thank you for your support this year. We look forward to the time we can see each other in person.

Social Emotional:

Our Social Emotional team put together resources for our learning community. The goals of these documents are...

- Normalize feelings/emotions happening within our learning community
- Give families tools to help identify & manage feelings/emotions happening within our learning community
- Emotional Awareness (restorative questions to help process feelings)
- Emotional Self-Management (tools to help manage emotions/feelings)
- Monitor Social Media Usage and Additional Community Resources

English Version [HERE](#)

Spanish Version [HERE](#)

Counselor contact information can be found at: <https://www.rcsdk12.org/domain/13094>

Safety of Everyone:

- Masks must be worn at all times over your nose, mouth and chin. The only time the mask should be removed is when sitting and eating. Masks must be worn on the bus.
- Carry your ID at all times and wear it around your neck. This identifies you as a SOTA student, allows you on the bus, if you are late– it is used to sign you in and it designates which lunch period you have. Our hope is to update the ID pictures.
- Arrival and Dismissal: the breakfast door and front door open at 8 AM. Once you arrive, please come in the building. In the afternoon, once you exit the building, please get on your bus. If you are staying afterschool with a coach or teacher, please remain in the building and go to their location- do not exit the building and reenter (unless you talk to an adult).
- What should your child do if they have a conflict with another student? Encourage your child to see their counselor or administrator. We have staff that can facilitate mediations and assist with strategies and problem solving.

Hall Locker Update:

The hall locker survey results are in. We will begin to work on assigning lockers for students who requested one. Our goal is to have this completed by the start of Marking Period 2.

Parent Concerns:

Please call ahead to schedule a meeting if you want to discuss a concern. Administrators and counselors might not be able to meet with you if you walk in without an appointment.



IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER 2– NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS– SUPERINTENDENT’S DAY

NOVEMBER 5– HALF DAY FOR STUDENTS (DISMISSED AT 12 PM)

NOVEMBER 11– NO SCHOOL—VETERAN’S DAY (BUILDING CLOSED)

NOVEMBER 12– LAST DAY OF MARKING PERIOD 1

NOVEMBER 24, 25, 26– NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS. THANKSGIVING BREAK

DECEMBER 9– PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES, 5-7 PM (TBA virtual or in person)

DECEMBER 10– HALF DAY FOR STUDENTS (DISMISSED AT 12 PM)

DECEMBER 24– JAN. 2, 2022– HOLIDAY BREAK

School of the Arts (SOTA) is a Rochester City School District secondary school serving nearly 1,200 students in grades 7 through 12, and we are located in The Neighborhood of the Arts. Our students are talented, interested in the arts, desire high academic achievement, and want to develop skills for college, career development, and life.

Provides opportunities for students to participate in performances and exhibitions in their field of study.

Offers students the opportunity to earn the Certificate of Employability, which is endorsed by employers throughout Rochester who consider it when making hiring decisions.

Has the New York State Seal of Biliteracy and the New York State Seal of Civic Readiness.

Averages 92% daily attendance.

As of the 2020-2021, graduation rate of approximately 95%.

SOTA GOOD NEWS

Therapy Dogs are back. Ms. Vandermallie has 5 teams of dogs that come to school to visit our classrooms.

Hispanic Heritage Observance Winners: Congratulations to Isaiah Santiago for being awarded the Volunteer Youth Award and our High Academic Achievement Scholar Award winners are Natalia Rose Biehl-Narvaez and Zulymar Perez.

See the link for the School of the Arts 2021-22 **LatinX Celebration** [HERE](#)

SOTA had an amazing **Fall Sports Season** with all of our teams being back on the field, court or pool. We start winter sports this week. Contact Mr. Michelsen if you need additional information.

COVID testing at school. Each week we have testing for non symptom students. If you are interested in having your child tested, please complete the Walgreens informational packet and sign up online.

The **Seventh grade students**, Class of 2027, spent October 13th getting to know each other when the upper grades took the PSAT and SAT. The activities centered around restorative practices, social emotional and getting to know each other.

Congratulations to **House of Wax**, SOTA's first feature film that premiered on October 29th. Tickets are now on sale for *Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical* [HERE](#)

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@RCSDSOTA

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