

REGIOPOLIS-NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Visit our website: www.reginotredame.ca



January 2022 Newsletter

Newsletter is issued at the beginning of each month

Principal's Message

I hope that the holy seasons of Advent and Christmas were a time for reflection and renewal for you and your family. On behalf of **Ms. Gallant, Mrs. Besselink and the entire RND staff**, I extend best wishes for an incredibly Happy New Year. Once again, we find ourselves in remote learning, for what I hope is only a brief time. We continue to pray for those in our community who find this time challenging in different ways and for those who work tirelessly in the health care field. We should all endeavour to continue being vigilant about hand hygiene, masking, and maintaining physical distance.

As you are aware, the ALCSDB has committed to the Quadmester format for the balance of the school year. Quadmester 2 classes end on **January 27th**. Final exams start on **January 28th** at 8:30 a.m. for the morning class and students write their afternoon class exam starting on **January 31st** at 8:30 a.m. Course reconciliation is set for **February 1st** (no classes), a professional development day for staff on **February 2nd** (no classes) with the second semester beginning on **February 3rd**. An updated school calendar will be posted once it is made available.

Our student services department, under the guidance of department head **Mrs. Glancey Cox** have been hard at work in preparation for the 2022 - 2023 school year. Current RND students will soon be starting the process of selecting courses for the next school year. Future incoming grade 9 students will be receiving information about registration and course selection in the coming weeks from their grade 8 teachers. A reminder that this year, we will not be hosting an 'in-person' grade 8 parent night. Instead, we will be live streaming an information event using our school's YouTube channel on **Wednesday, January 26th** starting at 6:00 p.m. Details will be available on the school website, www.regiopolisnotredame.ca, in the week leading up to the event.

Good luck to all those students who are awaiting responses from their college and university applications. It is vitally important to follow all steps of the process carefully, especially posted deadlines. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your guidance councillor for assistance.

Take care of yourselves and each other. We are here to support anyone from the RND community. Many of us are at the school during the day and all of us are accessible by email. Finally, I hope that together, our RND Panther family helps to make 2022 a momentous year for our entire school community.

God Bless and stay safe,

Paul Melim
Principal

Chaplaincy

Passing of Brayden Badour - The RND community mourns the unexpected passing of Grade 9 student Brayden Badour on **December 5th**, just days before his 14th birthday. Brayden had been in SickKids hospital in Toronto and suffered complications from a spinal tumour. Our hearts and prayers go out to the family and his friends and classmates from St. Paul's elementary school. *"Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace."*

Passing of Joanie (Besselink) Sagriff - The RND community also mourns the passing of RND Alumni Joanie Sagriff. She was the spouse of Mr. Rick Sagriff (also RND alumni and Computer Technician at RND and the school board) mother of RND Alumni Paul and Ben Sagriff, family to others on staff and friend to many. May she rest in peace and may we continue to hold all those who are grieving in our prayers. **Funeral is Friday January 7th at St. John the Apostle parish.**

Clean Water for First Nations - Many thanks to the HOSA, Eco-Team and SC for raising awareness about the struggle for clean water that First Nations communities face in this country. We hope to continue this good work in the New Year.

In this month of the Holy Name of Jesus, the Pope invites us to **pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution**; may their rights and dignity be recognized, which originates from being siblings in the human family.

Let us pray for all of you who are at home and trying to teach and learn. It's hard to be away from friends and all the good things that happen at RND. Let us also pray for staff and students who are here at school and all those front-line workers both at RND and elsewhere who are trying to keep working around people in the face of Covid and uncertainty.

May God keep us healthy in body and mind until we can be together again.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to supportive staff or your EAP provider should you need someone to talk to.

- Mary Elaine's email in chaplaincy is cartym@alcdsb.on.ca
- Kids Help Phone can be looked up online or text CONNECT to 686868
- Our staff EAP provider can be found at Morneau Shepell 1.844.880.9142 or workhealthlife.com
- Another good resource is the AbilitiCBT app for staff and those over 16 years of age.

Student Services

Timetables for Semester 2 and Guidance Appointments

Students are reminded to review their timetables for the upcoming quadesters by logging into their Aspen account. There is always a chance that changes have been made since the beginning of the school year. If students need to make other changes, they should book an appointment with their guidance counsellor via the Appointment link on their RND Homepage. There is a waitlist already for several semester 2 courses. Since students will learn remotely after the break, counsellors will send a Teams Invite for the meeting. If a phone call is preferable, students should add a cell number at which they can be reached during school hours.

Reminder for students applying to Ontario Colleges and/or Ontario Universities

Applications received and paid for on or before **February 1st, 2022** will be given equal consideration by the **Colleges**. After **February 1st, 2022**, applications are still processed but are considered by the Colleges on a first-come, first-served basis. Competitive programs will be full after this date, and the waitlists will note the dates students apply. The College application can be found on www.ontariocolleges.ca. A PIN is not needed to apply.

The deadline for **University applications** through OUAC is **January 13th, 2022**. The University application can be found on www.ouac.on.ca. Students need a PIN from OUAC to apply; these have been available in Student Services since October. Students are encouraged to contact their guidance counsellor if they have any questions or concerns.

All applications require payment to be submitted.
A confirmation email receipt will be issued upon payment.

Applying to Out-of-Province Universities

The OUAC assists the following out-of-province universities with collecting academic data for Ontario high school students who have applied through the OUAC:

- Acadia University
- Bishop's University
- The University of British Columbia
- University of Calgary
- Concordia University
- Dalhousie University
- McGill University
- Saint Mary's University
- Simon Fraser University
- The University of Victoria

Students who apply to these out-of-province universities can authorize the universities to request their academic information from the OUAC. To authorize them, the applicant must include their 11-digit OUAC Reference Number on the university's application form.

Students applying to a school not on this list should email **Mrs. Lackey** in Student Services -tlackey@alcdsb.on.ca -to request a transcript be sent on your behalf. Please include the email address of the Admissions/Registrar's office.

Frequently Asked Questions

Wondering about the application process for colleges and universities? Perplexed by the many questions and options posed by OCAS and OUAC? Students should refer to the FAQ document on Regi Guidance in D2L. If their question/answer is not there, students should contact their guidance counsellor.

Grade 8 School Visits

Prior to Christmas Break, guidance counsellors visited all Grade 8 classes from our partner schools – in person or virtually. Registration packages and course selection sheets were distributed at that time. Our grade 8 students will submit complete registration forms to their classroom teacher, who will send them to RND via Board mail. Registration packages are due to Student Services by **Friday, February 4th** to assist in the scheduling process.

A virtual presentation will be provided to teachers of remote learners from our elementary schools in preparation for our Virtual Grade 8 Information Night.

Course Selection for 2022-2023 School Year

Student Services will begin the course selection process at the beginning of semester two. Classroom teachers will share preparatory information, provided by Student Services, with their students. This information will be made available to all remote learners as well as to parents/guardians.

Guidance counsellors will meet with classes to facilitate the course selection process using the online planner, myBlueprint. They will start with the grade nines and tens, wrapping up with the grade elevens and Returners.

All students can access myBlueprint on their RND homepage, so we encourage parents and guardians to begin those conversations in anticipation of course selection being activated at semester start. Students are encouraged to meet with their guidance counsellor once we are back at school.

Virtual Grade 8 Information Night

Regiopolis-Notre Dame's Virtual Grade 8 Information Night will be held on **Wednesday, January 26th**. It will air on the RND YouTube channel at 6pm. The presentation will include academic, extra-curricular and enrolment information. A live Q & A session will start at approximately 7pm via Zoom. The link will be available on the RND website on **January 25th**.

Students and parents interested in information on the International Baccalaureate Program at RND should tune in to the RND YouTube channel on **January 27th** at 6pm.

Dual Credit

There are limited spots still available in some dual credit courses. Students can participate in courses on site at SLC, but RND students also have access to congregated courses offered virtually at St. Lawrence (Kingston) and integrated courses offered virtually from all three St. Lawrence campuses. For more information, contact **Mr. Poser** in Student Services at poser@alcdsb.on.ca.

Specialist High Skills Major

RND offers SHSM in Arts and Culture, Non-Profit, and Sports sectors. SHSMs are for grade 11 and 12 students who are interested in customizing their secondary school experience to suit their interests and skills.

SHSM students will:

- bundle Grade 11 and 12 credits related to the sector to connect their learning to the sector
- earn valuable industry certifications including First Aid, CPR and WHMIS, at no cost
- participate in experiential learning and career exploration activities (i.e. co-op related to sector)
- tour colleges, universities, and workplaces in the sector (e.g. forensic crime scene at Fleming College, Special FX makeup certification at Loyalist, participate in the Street Retreat, attend a Raptors game, or tour Global Television)
- take dual credit courses at St. Lawrence College

For more information contact your guidance counsellor. A QR Code for the online application is available on the Regi Guidance in D2L. Deadline to register is **January 16th, 2022**.

IB News

IB students who wish to discuss a change in their IB pathway are asked to email **Mr. David**, IB Coordinator, at david@alcdsb.on.ca.

IB DP students submitting work to IB for the **May 2022** session, must complete a Candidate Consent Form allowing the IB Coordinator and teachers to upload their work on the student's behalf. The CCF is available on the Regi IB D2L page. This form must be completed by **February 2nd, 2022**.

Grade 12 IB students will be uploading their Extended Essays, TOK Essay by **February 4th, 2022**.



OECTA Young Authors Writing Contest

Students are encouraged to submit an entry into this year's Young Authors Writing Contest, sponsored by the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association. Writing pieces will be accepted for the following categories in both the Junior and Senior Divisions: Short Story, Poem, Play, Non-fiction (e.g., essay, article, or report.) Entries are not to exceed 3000 words. Submit your work to your English or French teacher. If it is an entry written for a particular class other than English or French, e.g., history essay, please submit to the appropriate teacher. Deadline to submit to a teacher is the last day of classes for Quad 2, **January 27th, 2022**.

EQAO Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics

All Grade 9 students who attend publicly funded schools are required to write the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics in order to assess the math skills students are expected to have learned by the end of Grade 9 according to The Ontario Curriculum.

Students who are registered in the new de-streamed grade 9 mathematics course in Quad 2, will take the test on **Monday, January 24th and Tuesday, January 25th**. Students have been practicing for this assessment throughout the course. After School Numeracy Classes are offered to support students in the Grade 9 de-streamed course. These sessions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm in Room 232. For more information, parents/guardians should contact their student's Math teacher.

There are helpful resources available through EQAO's website (www.eqao.com)

RND Mathletes News

Kingston's Senior Math League Tournament

Congratulations to **Guna Kim** who finished in second place at Kingston's Senior Math League tournament on December 10, 2021. What is more amazing is that Guna is one of our junior mathletes from grade 10 and competed with mathletes who were mostly from grade 12. RND hosted some 40 math teams that came from as far as Trenton.

Waterloo's Math Contests

Congratulations to our mathletes for their excellent performance in Waterloo's math contests in November. Our junior team finished in second place in our zone.

Canadian Intermediate Math Contest

Top honours go to; Gold - **Hannah Moore**, Silver - **Guna Kim, David Hwang, Chantal Pilon**, Bronze - **Nico Benavides**

Canadian Senior Math Contest

Top honours go to; Gold - **Mary Mekhaeil**, Silver - **Lorelei Secrieru, Kevin Liu**, Bronze - **Shoei Sasaki**

Any student can join our mathlete team.

The next Waterloo Contest will be in February. Write to Mr. Santos (santosh@alcdsb.on.ca) by the end of January if you want join the team and/or try the Waterloo Contests.



Safe Arrivals Program Report your Child's Absence

Parents/Guardians are requested to report their child(s) daily absences (such as an illness, medical appointment, etc.) using the School Messenger app even while we are in a full day remote learning environment. This will ensure that the school is aware that any absence from online learning is approved by a parent.

You can report an absence using the School Messenger app available in the [App store](#) or [Google play](#), through the School Messenger website (go.schoolmessenger.ca) or by calling toll-free 1-844-445-4383.



Get your all new RND Merchandise! Items are on sale each **Friday** at lunch in the Student Common. You can also purchase your items online by going to the "RND Merch" link at the bottom of the reginotredame.ca home page. Don't miss out on your chance to get the latest RND gear.

Mental Health Ambassadors

Art Battle Results

Thank you to all participants and supporters of Art Battle 2021. It was great to be back! The theme of "relax" resulted in awe-inspiring paintings from our competitors. As usual the audience witnessed creativity in action, just one example of a healthy stress-busting strategy.

This year's MHA champ and winner of the "Movie Night for Two" was **Tai Quigao** (gr.9). Honourable mention went to **Alexandra Lee** (gr.12) and **Harriet Faught** (gr.12) for their entries.

MHA wishes to extend a special thank you to our judges **Ms. Gallant, Mr. Labelle, and Mrs. Latour**.