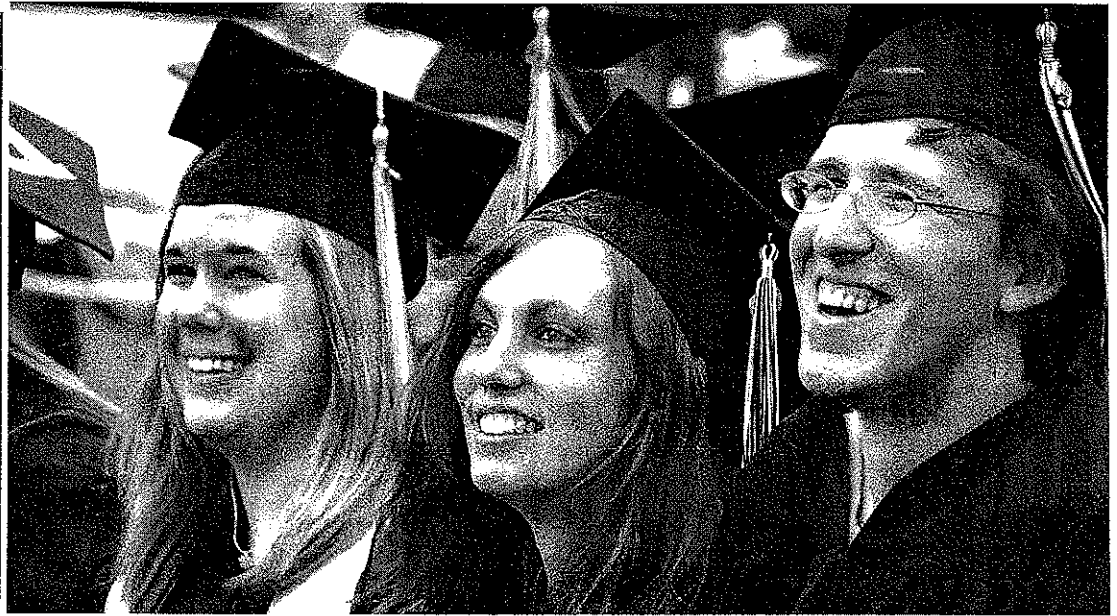


SCHOOL DAYS

RADFORD CITY SCHOOLS / NEWSLETTER

SUMMER ISSUE

JULY 2009



RHS CLASS OF 2009 EARNS TOP HONORS AND OVER \$2 MILLION IN SCHOLARSHIPS!

The class of 2009, representing almost 100 graduates, garnered over \$2 million in scholarship opportunities, helped earn honors for the school and themselves in academic and athletic pursuits, and headed into new lives of higher education or work.

"Never forget to be the best you can be at whatever you choose," they were told by Commencement speaker Ken Alderman. He retired June 30 as principal at Belle Heth Elementary School, and was there when the 2009 grads attended Belle Heth. His daughter, Mary, was a member of the class.

"Remember, once a Bobcat, always a Bobcat!"

Valedictorian Sanjay Kishore reminisced that "as I look out into my fellow graduates and the crowd, I fully comprehend that you all are the reason why this quiet city nestled in the foothills of Appalachia will always and forever be my home."

Salutatorian Amy Hill agreed, saying, "Radford has given us strong roots, and it is time to take off."

"We are very proud of our school and the great tradition of excellence here," RHS principal Greg Payne reminded the class. "The class of 2009 has been an integral part of these milestones. As a school, we have been awarded state championships in athletics, academics, CTE, and creative writing. Radford High School was named by the U.S. News and World Report as one of the Top 100 schools in the United States. In addition, we earned 2nd place in Group Single A in the Academic Wachovia Cup. Currently, we are 2nd in the Athletic Wachovia Cup and in a very tight race for first."

PHOTO BY GERALD BABER

DIVISION-WIDE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

All parents and students are invited to attend a division-wide school open house on August 27 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. This event will allow parents and students an opportunity to meet with teachers as well as gather important information about the upcoming school year.

INSIDE:

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

2009-10 School Calendar

August 31	1st Day of School
September 7	No School- Labor Day
October 12	End of 1st Grading Period
October 29	No School- Parent/Teacher Conferences
October 30	No School- Teacher/Staff Development
November 25-27	Schools Closed-Fall Break & Thanksgiving Holiday
November 30	End 2nd Grading Period
December 18	2 Hour Early Dismissal
December 21-31	Schools Closed- Winter Break
January 1	Schools Closed- Winter Break
January 4	All Schools Re-Open
January 18	Schools Closed-Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
January 27	End of 3rd Grading Period
January 28-29	Schools Closed- Teacher Workday/Staff Development
February 15	Schools Closed- Presidents' Day
March 15	End of 4th Grading Period
April 1	Schools Closed- Teacher Workday/Inservice Day
April 2-6	Schools Closed- Spring Break
April 30	End of 5th Grading Period
May 31	Schools Closed- Memorial Day
June 11	Last Day of School- 2 Hour Early Dismissal

Dates subject to change due to inclement weather or emergency closings.

School Hours

McHarg Elementary	8:35-3:15
Belle Heth Elementary	8:35-3:05
Dalton Intermediate School	8:10-2:35*
Radford High School	8:10-2:35*

*The school day begins at 7:35 for middle and high school students enrolled in a zero period class.

School Meal Prices

McHarg and Belle Heth Elementary Schools
 Breakfast- 90¢ Lunch- \$1.75

Lunches can be prepaid for \$1.50 per day...a savings of 25¢ per day.

Dalton Intermediate and Radford High Schools
 Breakfast- 90¢ Lunch- \$1.95

Lunches can be prepaid for \$1.70 per day...a savings of 25¢ per day.

Adults Breakfast- \$1.20 Lunch- \$2.50

THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR...

Information you need to assure your students are ready for classes and activities:

Enrollment Requirements

In order to enroll in Radford City Schools for the first time, parents or guardians should report to their child's school with the following information: birth certificate, social security card, VA physical, proof of residency and immunization record. For students transferring to Radford City Schools, much of the information needed for enrollment can be obtained from your previous school. However, a parent or guardian must fill out the appropriate form requesting that records be transferred to Radford.

Immunization Alert!!!

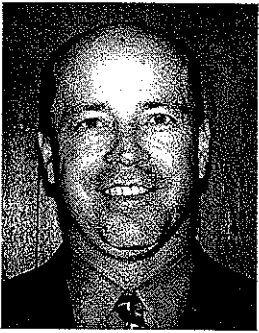
The 2006 General Assembly approved legislation requiring a booster dose of pertussis containing vaccine (Tdap) for students entering the 6th grade. It is important to remember that there is no grace period offered this year, so all immunizations must be completed and documentation received at Belle Heth prior to the beginning of the school year. For your convenience, your physician's office or the Radford City Health Department may fax the documentation to the school at 731-3697. Rising 6th graders who have not received this immunization will not be permitted to enroll for the 2009-10 school year until this documentation is received

Assistance For Families Experiencing Housing Needs

The federal McKinney-Vento Act guarantees school enrollment for anyone who, due to lack of permanent housing, lives in inadequate or temporary settings such as: emergency or transitional shelters; motels or campgrounds; cars, parks or public places; doubled up with relatives or friends; and is a migratory child or youth.

Children or youth living in these settings meet criteria for the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness, and have special educational rights.

Contact the Superintendent of Radford City Schools for more information at 731-3647.



SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Chuck Bishop

Superintendent, Radford City Schools

As we begin preparations for the upcoming school year, I have found myself reflecting on our accomplishments during the 2008-09 academic term.

This past year, our students enjoyed unprecedented success in academics, athletics and the arts. Academically, the Class of 2009 earned more than two million dollars in scholarship money to various colleges and universities, which is the most in the history of the school division.

Radford can also claim a State Championship in boy's basketball as well as several individual state titles in wrestling, tennis and track. Finally, our band and choir programs earned Blue Ribbon status this year. Quite simply, we have had another outstanding year.

BUDGET A CHALLENGE

While this year was one of the most gratifying in terms of overall success, it was also one of the most difficult as we faced the possibility of major budget reductions for 2009-10. As a fiscally dependent entity, the school board relies on the federal, state and local governments for all revenues used to operate the school division. In a weak economy, all of these revenue sources are impacted. As the school board wrestled with the possibility of nearly a million dollar budget deficit, a solid commitment was made to preserve as many jobs as possible. As a result, most of our non-personnel lines were reduced by some degree during the final budget preparation while there was minimal impact on staffing.

Even though this budget season was successful in terms of maintaining our current staffing levels, it would have not been possible without the infusion of American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (Stimulus Funds) from the federal government. Radford City Public Schools is expected to receive over six hundred thousand dollars in stimulus funds during the 2009-10 school year. Additionally, both our Title I and Special Education programs are slated

to receive an infusion of money to support those vital programs.

WELCOME TO THE NEW BELLE HETH!

With the beginning of the 2009-10 school year, our new Belle Heth Elementary will be welcoming 3rd through 6th graders with McHarg School reverting to a pre-Kindergarten through 2nd grade arrangement. The new building will have approximately 73,000 square feet and contain four grade level pods, a gymnasium, cafeteria, media center, computer labs, resource spaces, teacher workrooms, as well as art and music rooms. The planned outside spaces include a multi-purpose field, a baseball/softball field, a walking path and age appropriate playgrounds.

Our new facility is a result of an outstanding partnership between the Radford City School Board and City Council. In the late summer to early fall, a dedication ceremony will be planned. I hope that you find time to join us for this grand occasion.

WE NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION!

As you enjoy the remainder of the summer, I invite you to consider how you might be involved in our schools. Parents and interested community members play a vital role in the education of our students. Our booster clubs and parent organizations are constantly seeking additional volunteers who are willing to participate in making our schools even better places to teach and learn.

Best wishes for a great 2009-10 school year!

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome Troy Farmer, custodian at McHarg; Jack McKinley, principal at Belle Heth; Scott Larimer, math teacher and Mary Madeline Webster, guidance counselor, both at RHS; and Judith Simpkins, transportation, at the School Board office.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED IN OUR SCHOOLS!

Involved parents and community volunteers can play an important role in educating our students. Individuals are often needed to serve on various committees in the school division. Parents and/or community members interested in sharing their expertise are encouraged to contact Dr. Chuck Bishop at 731-3647. It is an opportunity to participate in the school division's decision-making process!

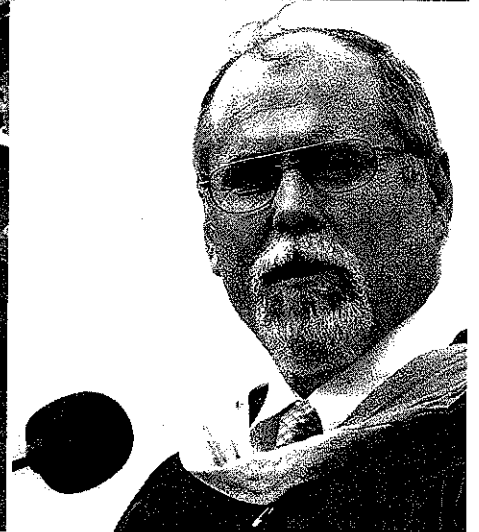
Check with individual schools, too, for chances to help with class projects, school events and activities.

PRESENTING THE 2009 RHS GRADUATING SENIORS



CLASS OF 2009

RHS grads heard words of wisdom from student leaders, faculty and administration during graduation at Bobcat Stadium June 5. At bottom right, is commencement speaker Ken Alderman, who retired June 30 after years of leadership, the latest as principal at Belle Heth Elementary School.



PHOTOS BY GERALD BABER

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NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 23

Published by Radford City Schools
1612 Wadsworth Street – P.O. Box 3698
Radford, Virginia 24141
www.rcps.org

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Designed and Edited by Bob Thomas
*Special Thanks Gerald Baber
For his great photos!*