

**ROA Director Update**  
**November 6, 2015**

Hello lovely ROA families,

Please help us welcome Beverly Matsumura, our new administrative assistant. Beverly comes to us from the Pleasant Valley district, where she has over 10 years of experience working in a middle school setting. We are very happy to have her. Feel free to introduce yourself to her, so she can get to know all of our families and students.

It is that time of the year again, where we are asking you to let us know how we are doing, give us input for our spring semester classes and workshops and help us make sure that our program is the best it can be. Your feedback is very important to us, and we are asking you that you fill out the survey (link below), which will only take a few minutes. **The survey is open through November 15<sup>th</sup>**. We look forward to reading your suggestions and responses. Thank you for your time.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ROAFall2015>

**R.O.A.bots Update (ROA's Robotics Team):**

Dear R.O.A. Families,

Our Robotics Club is learning about problems with trash in our world, and how to use science and technology to solve these problems. So we have started a recycling program at our school!

Please put **clean** paper, glass, plastic, metal, cardboard, and juice boxes in the blue bins, with all other waste (tissues, food waste, etc.) in the black bins.

**Help us save the earth!**

From the R.O.A.bots

**ACT Aspire for our 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders Assessment Window: November 9-20**

Your teacher will get in touch with you about the exact testing hours for each day during the week of November 16-20. The ACT Aspire is in place in lieu of the i-Ready Assessment. We feel that our 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students benefit more from taking this assessment, which measures both, college and career readiness and helps us guide instruction accordingly. Below, please find some more details on the ACT Aspire Summative Assessment (which will be administered twice, in November and again in the spring to measure progress.

*ACT Aspire® Summative Assessments measure student progress toward college and career readiness as defined by the pioneering research, data, standards, and benchmarks of ACT. Based on ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, ACT Aspire assessments are consistent with many state standards that are focused on college and career readiness. Scores reflect the knowledge and skills students develop over time—across grades—and link these results to readiness for college and career, providing an evolving picture of student growth. Educators receive valuable data about student readiness at each grade level. This actionable information enables educators to address students' strengths, areas for improvement, and potential. ■ Vertically scaled, standards-based battery of achievement tests ■ Linked to ACT College Readiness Benchmarks ■ Anchored by the ACT® test, the most widely taken college readiness assessment in the United States ■ Multiple question types—constructed response, selected response, and technology enhanced ■ Subject areas: English, mathematics, reading, science, and writing for grades 3–8 and early high school (grades 9–11).*

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your teacher.

**If your student is interested in testing during the week of November 9-13 (school is closed on Wednesday, November 11), please let your teacher know. Computers for testing will be set up during study hall hours on Monday 12:00-1:00; Tuesday, 9:30-11:30; Thursday 10-12:00; Friday 1:15-2:15.**

**Time slots for testing during the week of November 16-20 are:**

Monday/Friday 1:00-3:00 pm

T/W/Th: 12:00-3:00 pm

Students will take EL (reading) and math. The math test is 65 minutes; the reading portion is 60 and the writing section (optional) is 30. The subjects can be taken on different days, however, the subject (ELA or math) that is started on any given day must be completed that same day (or the student can choose to take both, ELA and math on the same day).

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS AND REQUESTS FOR OUR AMAZING ROA FAMILIES:**

- **Student Supervision:** We are well into our workshops and classes and are happy to see so many of you on campus. With that, come some issues for which we need your help. We have noticed that some of our students (especially on Wednesday) are unsupervised during lunch. As you know, we always ask that our parents stay on campus and supervise their own student. We are in an office building, where others are trying to conduct business, and having students outside who are running around, climbing on banisters and being unreasonably loud, is preventing our neighbors from doing that. **We are asking therefore that you please supervise your student during his/her break** and help us stay friendly with our neighbors by being respectful and using proper behavior in an office setting.
- **Cell Phone Use:** Please be considerate when using a cell phone and move down to the pond area when doing so. It distracts our staff from doing their work and our students from studying. Thank you for your understanding and from your cooperation.
- **Toy Weapons/Knives/Guns:** We are respectfully asking all parents that their students **leave their toy weapons (of any kind) at home or in the car**. Not only do these toys distract from learning, but also there have been too many unfortunate and sad incidents in recent months, that we feel any toy weapons are not appropriate on a school campus or resource center. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.
- **Student Illnesses/Colds:** The cold weather has arrived and with that we see more sniffing and coughing on campus. Please be considerate and keep your student at home, if he/she is fighting a cold or is sick. Thank you for helping us keep everybody healthy.

### **CAREER PATHWAY PROGRAM INFO:**

News from the College & Career class!!

We are thrilled with the overwhelming interest in our upcoming and future Entree to Employment dinners. We will continue to take names, but please note that we cannot guarantee a reservation until they release the tickets for each event. This usually happens around three weeks before the scheduled dinner. Thank you again for your enthusiasm!!

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### **Important Dates:**

Holiday	November 11 (no school and the office will be closed)
Thanksgiving Recess	November 23-27
Board Meeting	December 3 @ 7:00 (open to the public)

Winter Break

December 21-January 1, 2016

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Warm regards,

Your River Oaks homeschool team,

Leslie, Nick, Maria, Michal, Kathy, Amylynn, Leina, Teri, Sherri, Nadia, Marni

Tezo and Beverly

and

Claudia