



ABERDEEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

ABERDEENRONCALLI.ORG

CENTRAL OFFICE: 605.226.2100

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL: 605.225.7440

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: 605.229.4100

PRIMARY SCHOOL: 605.225.3460

NEWSLETTER

-Instilling Catholic values and promoting academic excellence by nurturing mind, body and soul. -

SEPTEMBER 2026



TIM WEISZ
PRESIDENT, ACSS

WELCOME BACK!!!

We are excited to begin a new year!!! With our goal and commitment of providing an authentic Catholic education to our students, we enter this new year with faith in the good works the Lord will do in the hearts and lives of our teachers/staff and students.

The scripture verse we have chosen to 'lean into' this year is "**Iron sharpens iron, and one person sharpens another**" **Proverbs 27:17**. This verse, written from the wisdom of Solomon, rightly points out the importance of working as a team to help each other become better versions of who God created us to be. The staff knows their weaknesses are really opportunities for growth and their strengths are fortified when they are working for a common goal. This is a mindset we will strive for as a staff and try to impart to our students.

At Roncalli, our goal goes beyond promoting academic strength in our students. We work to help them become stronger in mind, body, and soul hoping to equip them with the skills needed to become missionary disciples, with moral strength and hearts of servants.

Thank you for entrusting your children to us. We are excited to partner with all of our families to make Roncalli their best choice to receive a robust and Catholic education.

Sincerely,
Tim Weisz

Iron sharpens Iron,
and one person sharpens another
Proverbs 27:17

**MADISON AGUIRRE- 2ND GRADE**

Madison grew up on a farm between Chelsea and Northville, SD and this is her seventh year of teaching. Both her bachelors and master's degrees were obtained through NSU. She and her husband Favian (RHS alum '13) have 4 children: Archer(8), Rafael(4), Sofia(2), Calvin(5 months). When asked what she is looking forward to as she begins her career at Roncalli she replied "I am looking forward to building relationships with the students and staff at Roncalli!"

**BILL CANTALOPE- 6-12 CUSTODIAN**

Bill graduated from Central and earned a Business degree from NSU. His work experience is deep having had jobs including NSU Food Service, Jewett Drug, Aman Collection, Billion Automotive and in the funeral home business. He and wife Tammy have three kids and nine grandkids. Bill is a former athlete, coach, and now an official for baseball, basketball, and football. His favorite thing to do is spend time with his wife of 49 years. He reports he loves working at Roncalli.

**TRISTA HAMAK- 6-12 ADMIN. ASST.**

Trista is originally from Ipswich, SD and has worked in customer service since she was 14. She is a proud Roncalli mom to Faith(20, 2024 grad.), Ava(19, 2026 grad), Brodie(14), Ellie(12), and Bentley(10). She is excited to learn, grow, and make a difference while becoming part of the amazing Roncalli family!

**JEANNE HANSEN- 9-12 ENGLISH**

Originally from Lily, Jeanne graduated from Bristol H.S. and went on to earn both her bachelors & masters degrees in English from SDSU. She has taught 30 plus years in at both the high school, and college level. She and husband Kip have three grown children. Jeanne is back at Roncalli having taught here 2016-2018. She said her return to Roncalli is like being "back at home." Roncalli holds a special place in her heart.

**CONNOR LIBIS- DEVELOPMENT ASST.**

Connor is originally from Dell Rapids and graduated from St. Mary's High School. He played basketball for the NSU Wolves and graduated with a degree in Business Management. Connor has been with ACSS since January 2026. He is the oldest of three with one sister- Addison and one brother- Cooper. Connor shared he enjoys working at Roncalli because of the positive atmosphere and the good-hearted people who are associated with the school.

**BRAD NAASZ- 9-12 BUSINESS**

Brad is originally from Winner, SD and is in his 33rd year of teaching, 25 years of those years was in the Aberdeen School District. He graduated with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Administration and Accounting from Northern State University. Brad is married to his lovely wife Lori and they have two daughters, Faith and Leah. He is really looking forward to meeting the staff and kids here at RHS.

**MELISSA NGUYEN- K-8 VOCAL MUSIC**

Missy is an Aberdeen gal and in her 12th year teaching. She graduated from NSU. Missy is married to Koos O'Kennedy and has twin girls, Franky and Mina. The girls are in fourth grade at Roncalli. She is looking forward to sharing her love of music with all of her students.

**ANDREW RAML- 6,8 & 9 HISTORY**

Andrew is originally from Watertown, SD and is in his ninth year of teaching. All of those years were spent at Huron School Dist. He graduated from SDSU. Andrew and wife Lizzy have a one-year-old son, Paul. He is looking forward to growing in his faith as he continues his teaching career!



ELIZABETH (LIZZY) RAML- 6-12 PRINCIPAL

Lizzy is originally from Huron and is in her first year as a Principal. She taught for eight years in middle/high school, two of those were spent in the Aberdeen Public School District where she also coached volleyball. She obtained both her bachelor's and master's degrees from NSU. Lizzy and husband Andrew have a one-year-old son, Paul. She is looking forward to being a part of the amazing Roncalli community and growing in her faith.



RILEY SANGSTER- SPECIAL EVENTS COORD.

Riley is originally from Conde and attended Northwestern. She graduated from Dakota State University with an Exercise Science degree. She has worked as a Fitness Professional at Great Life and a PCT & ROI Specialist with Avera. She and husband Matthew have a son, Milo. Riley is looking forward to helping provide the students with many opportunities to grow academically and spiritually during their time at Roncalli and beyond.



TAYLOR THORSON- K-5 P.E.

Taylor is originally from Ipswich, SD and is a first year teacher. He graduated from Northern State University. Taylor is also our new Asst. Cross Country Coach and will be an Asst. Track Coach. He is looking forward to creating relationships with each and every one of his students!

SPIRIT STORE

Cavaliers, just in time for the new year . . . our online Roncalli Spirit Store through Geffdog Design & Apparel has three NEW designs for men, women and youth to choose from! Click the link below and check them out - available in multiple tshirt colors/design colors to customize your gear! Order now:
<https://www.promoplace.com/roncallispiritstore>



CAVALIER SPOTLIGHT

MARCHING CAVS

September's Roncalli Marching Band Performances - all are invited!

- Friday, Sept. 18 - Roncalli Homecoming Parade, 10am
- Saturday, Sept. 26 - Gypsy Day Parade, 9am on Aberdeen's Main Street
- Wednesday, Sept. 30 - Aberdeen Marching Band Festival, 9am on Aberdeen's 15th Ave. NE (Dakota St. to Main St.)

We can hardly keep
this under wraps ...

**RONCALLI
CHOCOLATE
IS COMING!**



SEPTEMBER 9-30



GRANDPARENTS DAY

Grandparents Day will be celebrated on Wednesday, Sept 23 at Roncalli Elementary School and Thursday, Sept 24 at Roncalli Primary School. Be on the lookout for more information to come on ClassDojo.

MASS SECURITY AWARENESS TEAM!

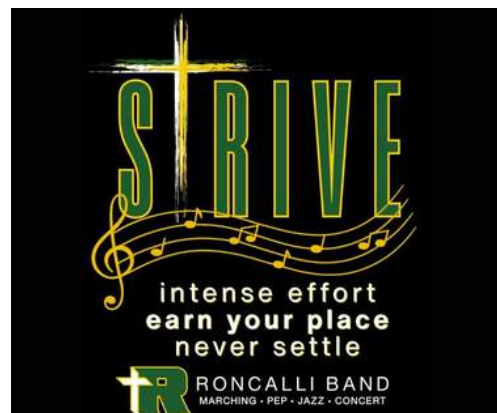
We are looking for volunteers who are interested in being part of our school mass security awareness team. If interested, please reach out to Rob Weinmeister at 605-380-0461.

MARCHING BAND SPIRIT STORE

Use the link below to purchase an item from the Marching Band Spirit Store.

The store closes at midnight on Sept. 8th.

<https://stores.inksoft.com/RoncalliBand26/shop/home>



STUDENT PROGRAMS THIS YEAR

At Roncalli, we will be hosting 3 programs for three different age groups.

For the K-5th grades students, we will be using the **Gizmo curriculum**.

<https://www.gizmo4mentalhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Gizmo-card-FINAL.pdf>



TALK SAVES LIVES will be presented again to grades 7, 10 and 12.

Topics covered include:

- Scope of the Problem: The latest data on suicide in the U.S.
- Research: Information from research on what causes people to consider suicide, how certain communities are impacted by suicide differently, as well as contributors to suicide risk
- Prevention: An understanding of the protective factors that lower suicide risk, and strategies for managing mental health and being proactive about self-care
- What You Can Do: Guidance on warning signs and behaviors to look for, how to start a conversation with someone you are concerned about, and ways to seek and offer support and crisis resources for yourself or others

For additional information about some of the topics covered in Talk Saves Lives, please visit: <https://afsp.org/risk-factors-protective-factors-and-warning-signs/> or <https://afsp.org/what-to-do-when-someone-is-at-risk/>

FOR PARENTS: "MORE than Sad" LUNCH AND LEARN - SEPT 30th - 12:10 to 12:50 pm at the Sacred Heart Church Parish Hall.

Please check out Mrs. Braun's School Counselor newsletter.

<https://canva.link/pkgt3l7sdwydzgm>

The Out of the Darkness Walk will be held at the Odde Ice Arena on Sept 12th. at 10 am. (Check in is at 9 am). Mrs. Braun will be walking in support of her friend and NSU teammate, Bill Martens who was a teacher and coach at Roncalli. If you would like to support his wife's efforts or simply walk, please join us. I have included my link below if you are interested in supporting monetarily.

<https://afspwalks.donordrive.com/participant/3571032>

We want to share a new opportunity this year for our 6-12 grade students. Students can come to any of the sessions throughout the year. They have moved the gathering to the cafeteria due to the large numbers of students attending.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP CLASS 2026-2027

CAVALIER CHARACTER MATTERS CURRICULUM

7:00-7:45 AM IN THE LIBRARY - BREAKFAST PROVIDED!



TUESDAY, AUGUST 11 WHAT IS LEADERSHIP?

Aligning leadership with the mission and values of the activities department. (F.A.I.T.H.)



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20 YOU VS. YOU + GUEST SPEAKER

Winning the battle within and escaping the comparison game.



TUESDAY, AUGUST 25 I-AM-3RD + GUEST SPEAKER

God first. Others second. Self third.



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3 INTEGRITY

Committing to doing the hard right over the easy wrong.



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 F.A.I.T.H.

Competitive excellence and self sacrifice to achieve something great.



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17 TOUGHNESS + GUEST SPEAKER

Building on You vs. You and Integrity - learn to push through.



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 LOVE & TOUGH LOVE + GUEST SPEAKER

Pushing others to reach their full potential is a sign of love.



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 WHEN LEADERSHIP IS HARD

How to lead when it seems like everything is against you.



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6 ATTITUDE

Dealing with moments of frustration, excitement, and more.



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15 ENERGY GIVERS VS. ENERGY VAMPIRES

What type of energy do you bring to others?



FULFILL
YOUR ROLE



ALL-IN
EFFORT



INTEGRITY



TOUGHNESS



HONOR THE
STANDARD

RMS **20 HOCO 26** **RHS**
Our Story Continues
 Sept. 14-18

PROLOGUE: MONDAY

- Business Casual
- Mass 8:05 AM
- Girls Tennis 10 AM vs. STM, NSU
- Senior Meal 6:00 PM, RHS
- Coronation 7:30 PM, RHS

CHAPTER 1: TUESDAY

- Athlete vs. Mathlete

CHAPTER 2: WEDNESDAY

- Game Day
- Class Color Day:
 - 6th Grade - White
 - 7th Grade - Yellow
 - 8th Grade - Green
 - Freshmen - Pink
 - Sophomores - Purple
 - Juniors - Blue
 - Seniors - Black

LET'S GO CAVS!

CHAPTER 3: THURSDAY

- BBQ Dads and Soccer Moms
- Cross Country, 11 AM, Lee Park
- Volleyball 7 PM vs. Webster, RHS

THE RESOLUTION: FRIDAY

- Roncalli Spirit Day
- Girls Tennis 10 AM vs. RC, NSU
- Parade Start 10:00 AM, RPS
- Pep Rally following Parade, RHS
 - All-School Lunch, RHS
- Freewill Tailgating, 5:15 PM, NSU's Dacotah Bank Stadium
 - Football 7 PM vs Miller/Highmore-Harrold, NSU's Dacotah Bank Stadium

During no uniform days students must follow school guidelines.

No leggings, bike shorts, short/tight bottoms or tops, tanks, etc.



RPS/RES Homecoming Week 2026

Monday, September 14th – Friday, September 18th

Get ready to open a new book each day as we celebrate a week of fun, imagination, and school spirit! From cozy pajamas to fancy outfits, silly socks to class colors, each day brings a new chapter in our story.

Reminders:

- Keep all outfits respectful and school-appropriate (no leggings).
- If your child does not participate in dress-up days, school uniforms are required.

Monday: *Goodnight Moon* – Pajama Day

Get cozy as we open the book on Homecoming Week! Wear your favorite pajamas or comfy clothes as we start our week of fun.

Tuesday: *Fox in Socks* – Fun Socks Day

Get ready for some foxy fun! Show off your personality with your craziest, silliest, brightest, or most mismatched socks.

Reminder: RPS students will have picture day on this day! Wear your regular picture-day outfit and add your fun socks.

RES students should wear their school uniform, but don't forget to add your fun socks!

Wednesday: *Brown Bear, Brown Bear* – Class Color Day

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what do you see? You'll see Roncalli students showing off their class pride! Wear a shirt of your assigned animal color and uniform bottoms.

Color Assignments:

PreK – Blue Horse	3 rd Grade – Yellow Duck
Kindergarten – Black Sheep	4 th Grade – Red Bird
1 st Grade – Green Frog	5 th Grade – White Dog
2 nd Grade – Purple Cat	

Thursday: *Fancy Nancy* – Nice & Fancy Clothes

Darling, it's time to get fancy! Channel your inner Fancy Nancy and dress in your nicest, fanciest, most fabulous outfit.

Reminder: RPS students will be attending Mass, so please wear an outfit that is modest and respectful.

RES students will have picture day on this day, so wear your nicest picture-day outfit and add a little Fancy Nancy flair!

Friday: *Our Story Continues* – School Spirit Day

Our story has brought us all the way to the final chapter of Homecoming Week. Show your Roncalli pride by wearing your school spirit gear. Let's fill the school with spirit and celebrate the story we are writing together!

The Homecoming Parade to RHS will begin at RPS on Friday at approximately 10 a.m. Following the parade, students will have lunch at the high school. The menu includes grilled hamburgers or hotdogs, baked beans, carrots, apple slices, and a cookie. We strongly encourage students to choose the school lunch that day so that we have fewer lunchboxes to manage. Please indicate your child's lunch choice below.

Child's Name: _____

Lunch Choice (please check one):

☐ School lunch (hamburger or hotdog)

☐ Brought from home

Parent Signature: _____

Due by: September 9th



PRESCHOOL PEEKS

Roncalli SonShine Patch

LET'S BE FRIENDS!

With school starting, making new friends can be a tricky! Building friendships through play can make learning that skill even easier while having FUN!

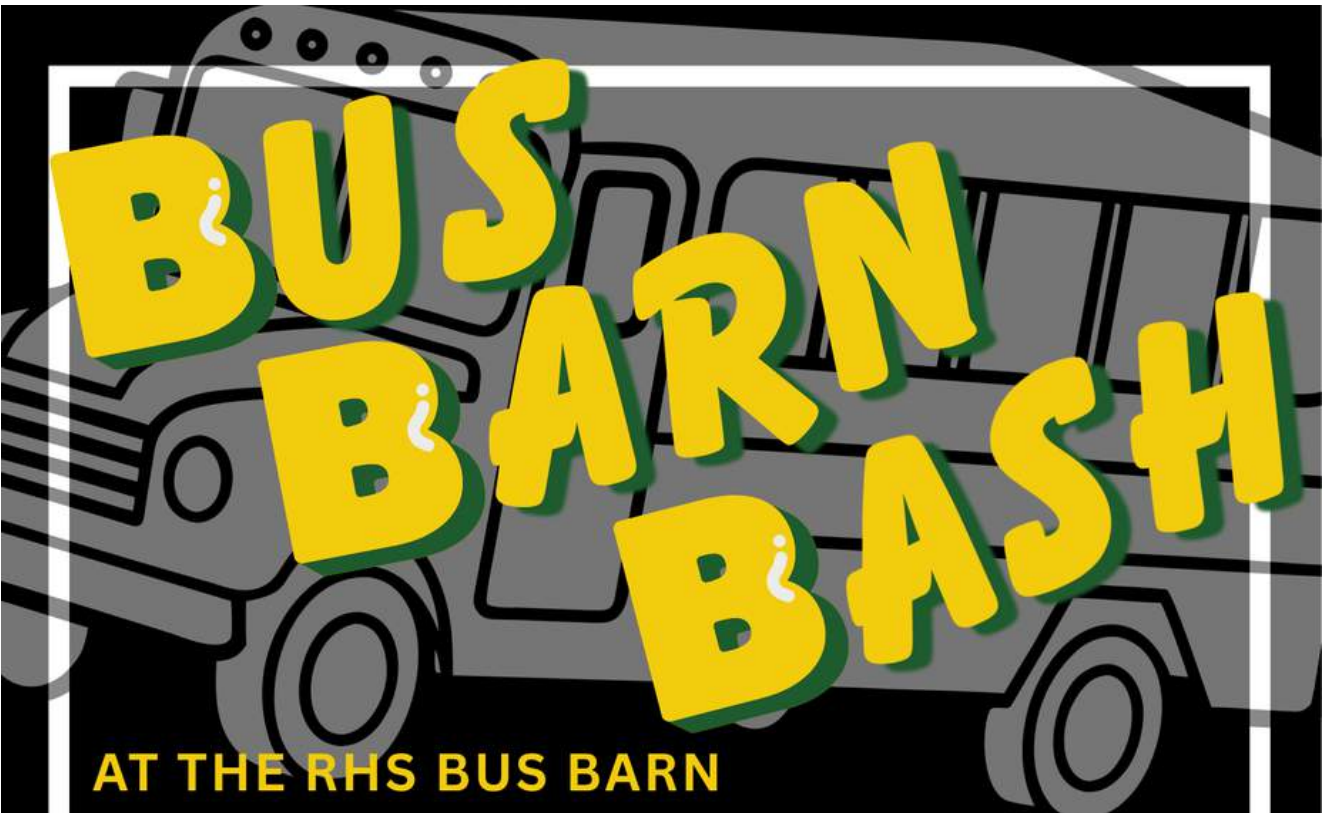
Play enhances social-emotional growth by teaching essential skills like communication, cooperation, negotiation, and conflict resolution, while also boosting cognitive abilities such as problem-solving, creativity, and memory. Children learn to manage their emotions, including frustration and disappointment, and develop empathy for others' feelings during play.

Play provides a safe space to practice empathy and emotional regulation, leading to stronger, more stable relationships that are crucial for overall well-being and a sense of belonging.



LET'S PLAY!





BUS BARN BASH

AT THE RHS BUS BARN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2
6-10 PM

KARAOKE • SUPPER • WATCH A GAME

Adults Only

Green & Gold Members **FREE**

All Others **\$20** Admission

SPONSORED BY





St. Mary's Fall Festival, 9/13

Sacred Heart Bazaar, 10/4

Check out the website for
Sacramental preparation registration with dates/locations
<https://www.blessedsacramentparishes.org/grow>



**BLESSED
SACRAMENT**
PASTORATE

**FAITH FORMATION
&
SACRAMENTAL PREP**



WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAITH FORMATION *for grades K-12*

BEGINS SEPT 9 AT 6:30PM



PARENT+CANDIDATE INFORMATION MEETING *for*

CONFIRMATION *prep for all 10th graders at St Mary's*

WED SEPT 16 AT 6:30PM



PARENT+CHILD INFORMATION MEETING *for*

FIRST COMMUNION *prep for all 2nd graders at St Mary's*

WED SEPT 30 AT 6:30PM



SUNDAY FAMILY EDUCATION K-5 *at RPS at 10am*

STARTS SEPT 20



Follow this link for locations, to learn more, and sign up soon!



blessedsacramentparishes.org/formation



**BLESSED
SACRAMENT**
PASTORATE

MASS TIMES

SACRED HEART

Aberdeen, SD

Weekend Mass

Sat 5:00PM
Sun 8:00AM
Sun 10:00AM

Daily Mass

Tue 5:30PM
Wed 8:30AM (7:30AM in the summer)
Thurs 7:30 AM
Fri 12:10 PM

ST. MARY'S

Aberdeen, SD

Weekend Mass

Sat 5:00PM
Sun 9:00AM
Sun 11:00AM

Daily Mass

Wed 8:00AM
Thurs 10:10AM (12:10PM in the summer)
Sat 9:00AM

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS NEWMAN CENTER

Aberdeen, SD

Weekend Mass

Sun 5:00PM
(held at Sacred Heart in the summer)

Daily Mass

Tue 7:00PM

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

Groton, SD

Weekend Mass

Sun 8:30AM

Daily Mass

Fri 8:30AM

ST. JOSEPH'S

Turton, SD

Weekend Mass

Sun 11:00AM

Daily Mass

Tue 5:00PM