



RVGS New Student Meeting

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Welcome to RVGS!

Congratulations on becoming an RVGS 'Lab Rat'!

Today we will discuss what you can expect in your experience at RVGS, discuss the summer math assignment, and give some tips for success!



Why RVGS?

- ▶ Take a moment to think about what motivated you to apply to attend RVGS...
- ▶ Hopefully that includes:
 - ▶ An opportunity to grow
 - ▶ A place to truly challenge yourself
 - ▶ Deep learning in math, science, and technology
 - ▶ The chance to develop determination and work ethic



What defines a 'gov school student'?

- ▶ Our students are smart, but 'being smart' isn't what defines them.
- ▶ Values that matter here:
 - ▶ Determination
 - ▶ Integrity
 - ▶ Excitement for Learning
 - ▶ Critical thinking
 - ▶ Drive to grow and improve
- ▶ Note that this list DIDN'T include:
 - ▶ Perfection
 - ▶ Straight A's
 - ▶ Never needing help



Student life at RVGS

- ▶ Friendships across the region from different schools
- ▶ Warm, academically-minded student community
- ▶ Student advisory
- ▶ “Govie Gala”
- ▶ Ultimate Frisbee
- ▶ Shelly STEM Challenge



Don't be scared

- ▶ Many people are afraid they “aren't good enough” when they start something new
- ▶ If you have a question, don't be afraid to ask!
- ▶ It is helpful to become comfortable with the idea of being uncomfortable.
- ▶ We want you to thrive and will offer support, but no one can do it for you.



Let's address some misconceptions

- ▶ Struggles are permanent/damaging. (“I’ll never be good at this”)

They aren't - they are learning experiences.

- ▶ The point of high school is to get good grades so you can get into college.

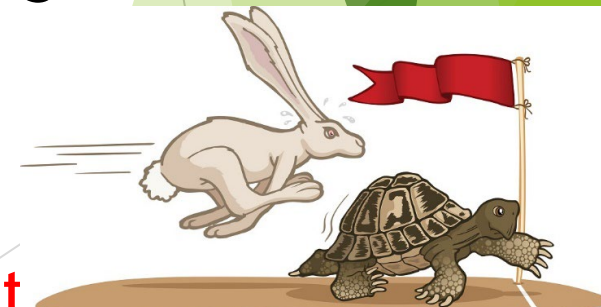
Grades and college are important, but so is your personal growth. Colleges know our standards are high.

- ▶ Asking questions/needing help means you aren't smart enough.

Everyone has things during class they don't understand!

- ▶ Determination is for people who aren't smart enough.

If you never find something difficult, that means you aren't challenging yourself enough.



RVGS Determined

R: Reflection (you need to self-assess to grow)

V: Virtue (integrity in and out of the classroom)

G: Growth (strive for improvement and development)

S: Setting goals (supports continued growth)

Determined: willingness and desire to overcome setbacks and not letting things stand in your way

Student Supports

- ▶ Teachers - during class and before/after
- ▶ Counselor - Mrs. Sebolt
- ▶ Director - Mr. Levy
- ▶ Peers
- ▶ School culture - *RVGS Determined*
- ▶ When struggles continue



Let's Cover Some Basic Information...

- ▶ Yearly calendar - Roanoke City Schools calendar
 - ▶ Orientation: Aug 7-10 (8:30-11:00) at RVGS
 - ▶ What to expect
 - ▶ Transportation for orientation
 - ▶ First day of school: Tuesday, Aug 22
 - ▶ Project Forum (required day): Saturday, Feb 3, 2023
- ▶ Daily schedule
 - ▶ (*tentative*) 8:30 - 11:00 (AM) or 12:55 - 3:30 (PM)
- ▶ Course schedule: Physics, Algebra 2 (most students), Fundamentals of Research (elective)
- ▶ Course supplies: Graphing calculator (see letter/email ddivers@rvgs.k12.va.us with questions) and 'normal' supplies

Let's talk about the past few years...

- ▶ You and your teachers the past few years did the best you could through difficult circumstances
- ▶ Our goal is to meet you at your starting point and get you to an appropriate end point by *May 2024*
- ▶ The transition to RVGS is always a challenge, and you might feel that even more because of the pandemic
- ▶ Let's all understand there could be some bumps in the road in the fall, but the teachers and staff at RVGS will be there to help you overcome them

Coming to RVGS is a chance to discover your own power

- ▶ Many “heroes” from books or movies start off being restrained or held down by outside forces. Let’s talk about one well-known example...
- ▶ The defining characteristic of heroes isn’t that things start off perfect or that they get everything they want...it’s that they become more powerful than the outside forces that held them down
- ▶ You are empowered to take charge of your own future...and others can’t do it for you!



How will we get there?

- ▶ The RVGS transition is a challenge, but it isn't a mystery:
 - ▶ We will give you advice - follow it!
 - ▶ We will give you clear expectations - meet them!
 - ▶ We will offer help - accept it!
- ▶ Let's discuss priorities for your student skills, academics, and frame of mind:
- ▶ Focus on student skills (*actually* "doing my best") :
 - ▶ Follow advice for study skills and time management
 - ▶ Studying and practicing are necessary
 - ▶ You **NEED** to budget your time...
 - ▶ Meet due dates and expectations. No late work, no retaking quizzes and tests, no extra credit. If you have a problem **CONTACT THE TEACHER IN ADVANCE.**



How will we get there?

▶ Focus on academics:

- ▶ Summer prep - make good use of your summer assignment
- ▶ Recognize gaps in your knowledge and attack them
- ▶ Commit to stretch yourself and think deeply
- ▶ Deepening prior skills; be an ACTIVE learner



vs.



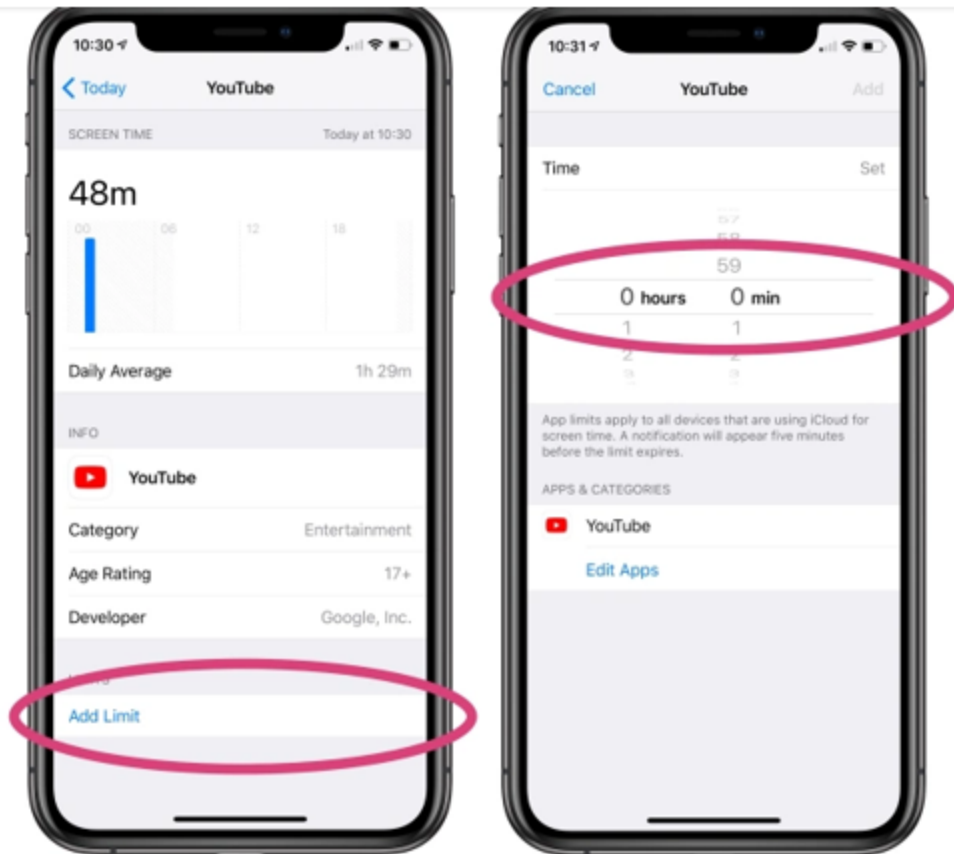
▶ Getting/keeping a healthy frame of mind

- ▶ Reach out for help - become friends with Mrs. Sebolt!
- ▶ Get enough sleep
- ▶ Keep prospective -worst damage a math test can do is a paper cut
- ▶ Control your technology use instead of it controlling you

How will we get there?

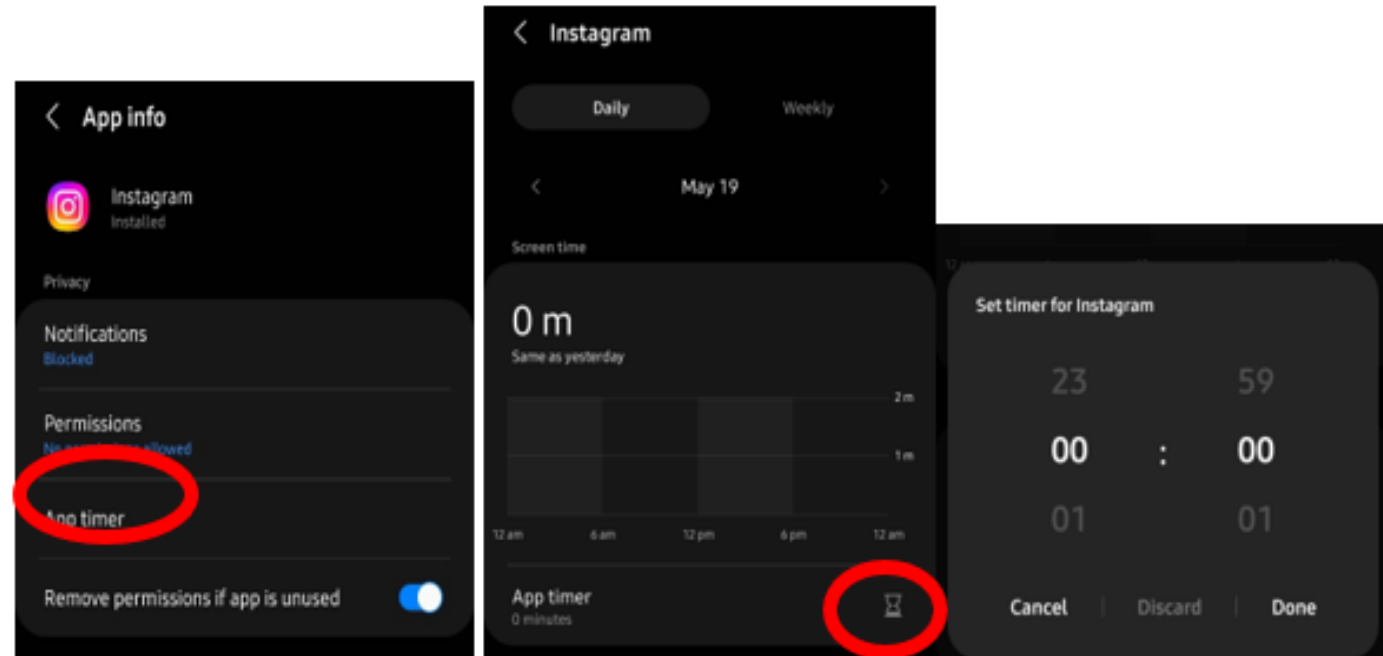
For iPhones

Settings → Screen Time → Tap on the graph → Select the app you need to limit



For Androids

Settings → Apps



Math Summer Assignment

- ▶ The summer assignment is NOT:
 - ▶ A screening process
 - ▶ Something to prove that you ‘belong’
 - ▶ Us trying to ruin your summer
- ▶ It IS:
 - ▶ A chance to practice important skills
 - ▶ A way to proactively address ‘soft spots’
 - ▶ An opportunity to practice determination and time-management
 - ▶ The easiest grade you’ll get at RVGS

The summer assignment must be completed by August 6. (You should probably write that down)



How to access the assignment

- ▶ A link to the assignment (specific to your math class) can be found on the RVGS website (www.rvgs.k12.va.us) under Announcements. You are encouraged to subdivide the work and commit to completing some work each week.
- ▶ Summer assignments will open on June 9.
- ▶ Practice your time-management skills!
- ▶ The assignment is completed online to allow quick feedback.

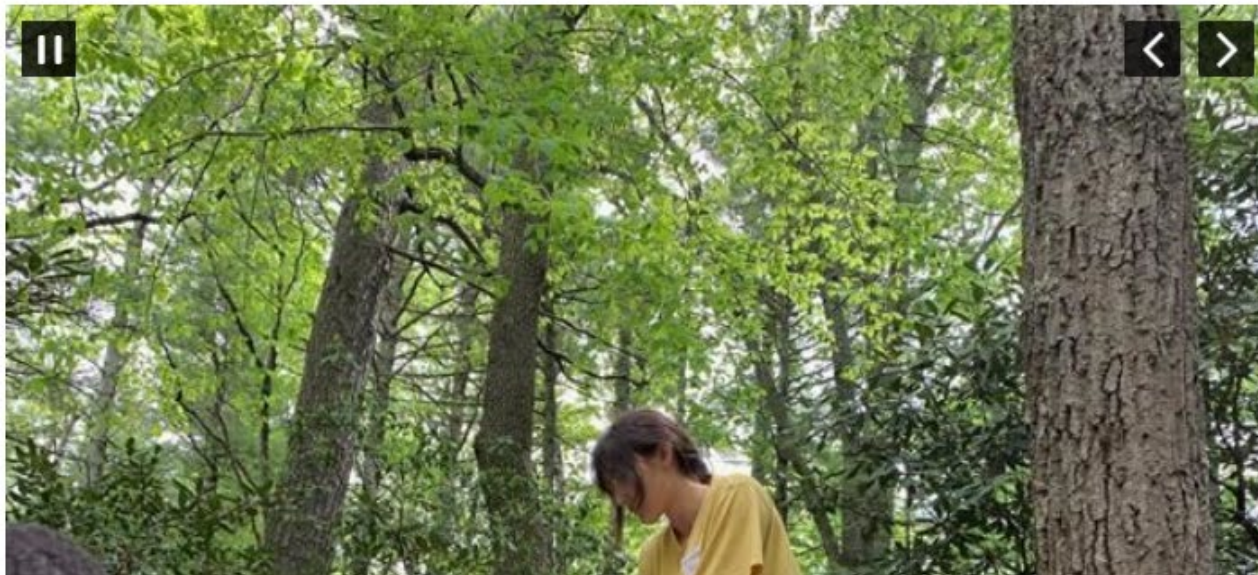
How to access the assignment



Roanoke Valley Governor's School for Science and Technology



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Announcements

[New Student Center](#) (click here for virtual access to New Student/Family Meeting if you cannot attend in-person)

[RVGS Summer Assignments page](#)

How to access the assignment

2023 Summer Assignments


If you have difficulty opening or accessing your summer assignments, please contact Mr. Levy (mlevy@rvgs.k12.va.us or 540-853-2116).


Complete summer assignments for the classes you will start in the fall (not the class you just finished).

Note: All classes have a summer assignment file below; if the course doesn't have a summer assignment the file will


Not using a calculator includes not using demos; not receiving outside help is referring to while working on questions...students are encouraged to pursue help for topics they are having difficulty with, then attempt the questions again on their own.

NEW RVGS STUDENTS - Complete the assignment for your math class

 Rising Algebra 2 Summer Assignment

 Rising Precalculus Summer Assignment

 Rising Calculus Summer Assignment

 No RVGS Physics (1st year) summer assignment



RVGS Summer Assignment
For Rising Algebra II Students

Introduction: This set of practice problems on Deltamath.com website provides a review of Algebra I topics and mental math skills that will help you be successful in Algebra II. By completing this review during the summer, you will keep your brain mathematically active, and identify concepts and skills that you need to strengthen for your year ahead.

Instructions:

1. Create an account on <https://deltamath.com>.
2. Complete all exercises from all 5 sections without using a calculator.
3. You may use a calculator to work out problems, but not to enter your answer(s) on Deltamath.com.
4. You may not get help from another person, such as a tutor, teacher, peer, or family member.
5. Each section has a number of problems to complete (correctly) before the section is finished 100%. If you answer incorrectly, the program will show you the correct steps to complete the problem. Deltamath will provide additional problems to attempt until you have answered correctly the number of problems assigned to that section. If you need help, please use the suggested resources outlined in this document. You may also use other online resources or textbooks.
6. If you are still struggling with concepts or problems please email us at any time with your



Some tips for the summer assignment

- ▶ Take advantage of the chance to fix knowledge gaps now, rather than during the school year!
- ▶ Practice your determination - seek to IMPROVE not just 'get it over with'.
- ▶ Attempt the questions without help so we get a good sense of where you will need help.
- ▶ If there are topics you struggle completing, seek help after completing that section. You SHOULD NOT have a tutor or friend walk you through the questions. **Maintain your integrity.**
- ▶ No calculator, desmos, etc. Remember our conversation from earlier...



Other supports during the summer

- ▶ We will provide skill review videos and hold weekly help sessions for Algebra 2 and Precalculus summer assignments throughout the summer. The link and information will be posted to the “New Student Center” by the end of the school year. Email Mr. Levy if you need technical assistance (mlevy@rvgs.k12.va.us).
 - ▶ Help session schedule will be determined soon and posted to the New Student Center
- ▶ New Student Center <https://www.rvgs.k12.va.us/Page/1189>
 - ▶ Link to help sessions and other info for new students
 - ▶ Students are expected to check the page every Monday and every Thursday at a consistent time of your choosing, and complete a “Check-in” activity.
 - ▶ The first “Check-in” will be posted June 12.
 - ▶ *Why?*
 - ▶ Not the end of the world if you have a time conflict. But...**what do you need to do any time you can't meet an obligation?**

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Resources and Info for New Students

If you did not attend the new student meeting in May (or watch the recording later), [LINK PENDING](#)

Mr. Levy will send a few emails to the parent email list during the summer to provide information. [Click here for a copy of these emails.](#)

Review sessions covering topics from the math summer assignment will be offered during the summer - [SCHEDULE TO BE DETERMINED](#)

WEEKLY HELP SESSIONS

[HELP SESSION SCHEDULE AND CONTACT TO BE DETERMINED](#)

[LINK HERE](#)

What's New?

SUMMER "CHECK-INS"

Check this section every Monday and Thursday at 1:00 PM and complete the 'check-in' activity.

If you won't be able to complete a check-in at the proper time, [use this form to give advance notice.](#)

To start summer, make sure you have done the following:

Sign up for the new student Remind group

Create your sign-in for the summer assignment (and get started)

Make plans to attend the series of review sessions ([SCHEDULE TO BE DETERMINED](#))

Students - Sign up for 'Remind'

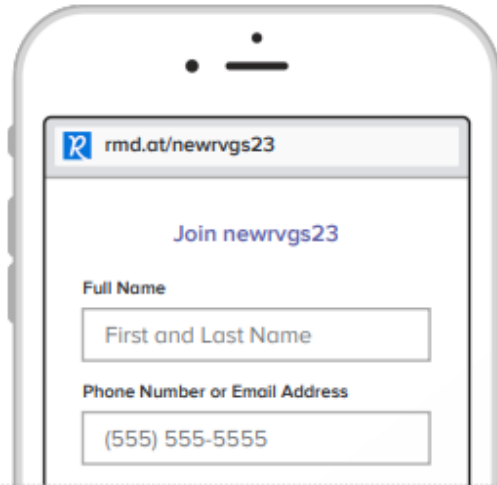
Pick a way to receive messages for newrvgs23:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/newrvgs23

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



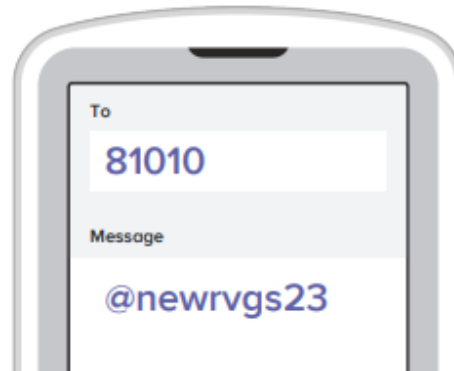
The image shows a smartphone screen displaying the Remind sign-up page for 'newrvgs23'. The URL 'rmd.at/newrvgs23' is at the top. Below it is a 'Join newrvgs23' button. There are two input fields: 'Full Name' with the placeholder 'First and Last Name', and 'Phone Number or Email Address' with the placeholder '(555) 555-5555'.

B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @newrvgs23 to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @newrvgs23 to (303) 731-4514.

* Standard text message rates apply.



The image shows a smartphone screen with a text message interface. The 'To' field contains the number '81010'. The 'Message' field contains the text '@newrvgs23'.

- ▶ This is not a substitute for checking the “New Student Center!”
- ▶ What to do if you don't have a cell phone...
- ▶ Parents can sign up if they wish, but the intent is for students to learn to handle communication and responsibilities without parent intervention.
- ▶ Students can use this for two-way communication to reach Mr. Levy
- ▶ Parents should always use email or phone for communication with the school

What questions can we answer for you?

