



August 2025

Members of the class of 2029 and new students:

Welcome to Rice Lake High School!

The high school staff and I are looking forward to a great year with our incoming freshmen class and new students. We have heard great things about you and are anticipating a very positive school year. As summer draws to a close, it's time to be thinking about school preparations. Most likely you have some concerns about being in a new school with different teachers and new classes. It is for that reason that we structure the first day of school exclusively for freshmen and new students in order to help everyone settle into these new surroundings and assure a smooth transition into high school. We hope that through our orientation day, we can reduce anxiety and help students become more comfortable at Rice Lake High School. In addition, as you enter high school I hope you will consider what you will need to do in the next four years to set yourself up for a successful life.

August 21, 2025 is the date we have set for your first day. We have the following planned for you on that day:

- meeting with your homeroom teachers and upper-class mentors
- opportunity to take trial runs through your schedule
- receive your district issued Chromebook
- learn more about the Academic Career Plan graduation requirements
- find your locker and practice your combination
- activities fair - you'll have the chance to see what each of the approximately 50 clubs, sports, and other extra-curricular activities are all about and sign up for a minimum of two that are of interest to you
- finally...to end the day, a fun homeroom competition

There are many activities planned and we feel confident that by the end of the day most of the questions you have about high school will be answered. Your parents will likely have some of the same questions. Please invite your parents to come to Freshmen Orientation and Open House at the high school. Freshmen Orientation is an evening for freshmen and their parents to become acquainted with the building and procedures. Freshmen Orientation will be held from **5:30 - 6:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, August 20, 2025** in the high school auditorium. Open House is for all students and will be from **5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** on **August 20, 2025**. If you or your parents have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at (715) 234-2181 or pacholke@ricelake.k12.wi.us.

I look forward to meeting all of you very soon. BTW, school starts at 8:00 a.m., so make sure you're here on time for the first day.

Go Warriors!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Curt Pacholke".

Curt Pacholke, Principal