



Angie Murphy, Principal
727-774-7000 - rrms.pasco.k12.fl.us - @RRMSRoyalKnight

STORM THE CASTLE 6TH GRADE & NEW RRMS STUDENT ORIENTATION – AUGUST 2

Incoming 6th graders and any new RRMS students are invited to attend Storm the Castle on **Wednesday, August 2 from 8:30AM-2PM**. This day will provide an orientation to RRMS, give new students an opportunity to meet current RRMS students and teachers, learn about the campus, clubs and sports. Students will receive RRMS shirt, bag, breakfast, lunch, and snacks at no cost. Parents can join their students at 1PM to pick up schedules, pay fees, purchase spirit items, PE uniforms, etc. *Students who attend do not need to attend the County-wide Secondary Registration Day on August 8.*

SECONDARY REGISTRATION DAY – AUGUST 8

Tuesday, August 8 is the County-wide Secondary Registration Day from 8AM-2PM in the River Ridge Middle School Cafeteria. Parents/Guardians can come with students to pick up schedules, pay fees, purchase PE/Dance uniforms and lockers, buy yearbooks, and take tours of the campus. We will also have new RRMS spirit items on sale for purchase.

TDAP – 7TH GRADERS

All 7th graders must have their TDAP shot up to date and bring proof of vaccination prior to entering school. Florida Certification of Immunization (DH680 form) must be provided to the school nurse on August 2, August 8 and prior to the first day of school. All Pasco County students are required to be fully immunized.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

The Assistant Principal for Scheduling and the guidance staff will review requests for schedule changes according to the following guidelines:

- Student has already taken the course;
- Student has not completed the prerequisite;
- Student needs the course to be promoted to high school.

No other requests for schedule changes will be honored. Due to the Class Size Amendment, courses are limited and have been scheduled based on student requests in the spring/summer.

River Ridge Middle School ROYAL UPDATE

Be RESPECTFUL. Be RESPONSIBLE. Be A PROBLEM SOLVER.

STAY CONNECTED TO THE RIDGE

To help students succeed, parents/guardians are asked to:

- Develop an understanding of school requirements and policies.
- Support their students in meeting these requirements.
- Visit the RRMS website regularly at rrms.pasco.k12.fl.us
- Follow the RRMS Facebook page, Twitter account, and Instagram at @RRMSRoyalKnight
- Check myStudent regularly and sign up for an account.
- Participate in parent/teacher conferences, school meetings, and related activities.
- Ask students for progress reports and report cards.
- Communicate with the school regarding concerns, questions, or suggestions.
- Be involved by attending Parent Nights, after hours, and sporting events.
- Join the PTSA and volunteer whenever possible.

17-18 MIDDLE SCHOOL FEES

Pasco County School Board Approved

General Fee	\$10
Art Fee	\$10
Band Program Fee	\$15
Chorus Program Fee	\$15
Career Technical Course Fees (per year)	\$10
Dance Fee	\$10
Instrument Tech & Instrument Ensemble	\$10
Physical Education Fee (includes lockers)	\$5
Science Fees (per year)	\$10
Student Technology Service Fee	\$2
Theatre Fee	\$10

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORMS

Students taking Physical Education or Dance courses must dress out daily in appropriate attire.

PE uniforms are available for purchase for \$10 shirt or shorts or a combo for \$15. Students must wear light tops, dark bottoms, and athletic shoes.

Dance uniforms are available for purchase for \$30 for a shirt and leggings.

These items will be available on August 2, August 8, and the first few weeks of school for purchase.

July 2017



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VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Parents and community members can now apply online to become an approved volunteer. The application can be accessed on our district website <http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us>. The link is located on the main page, entitled "Volunteer Application." Volunteers are still subject to a state criminal background check and a sexual predator/offender check. Our school's volunteer coordinator, Karen Tabone, can advise you of your approval status once you have submitted your application. You can contact her at ktabone@pasco.k12.fl.us or 774-7208.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

River Ridge Middle School and River Ridge High School will be hosting joint School Advisory Council meetings for the 2017-18 school year. Meetings will be held the third Thursday of each month in the RRMS/HS Faculty Lounge at 2:30PM. We are looking for parent and business/community partners to participate in this important committee. Nominations for the 2017-18 School Advisory Council will be taken through August 18, 2017. Nominations can be made by contacting Paul Lipinski, Assistant Principal, via email to plipinsk@pasco.k12.fl.us. Voting for available positions will take place during Open House on August 29, 2017. Contact Mr. Lipinski for more information.

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

ESSA legislation requires that schools provide parents or guardians an annual status report called School Public Accountability Report. This report will be available online at <http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclb-spar/index.cfm>. A hard copy of the report will also be available in the front office at the school.

SAFETY DRILLS

Central to having a safe school is practicing emergency drills during the school day. Fire drills will be conducted during the first two weeks of school and monthly thereafter, in accordance with state law. A tornado drill will also be scheduled in September and again in the spring. A lockdown drill is conducted once per semester. These drills allow staff and students to rehearse the procedures that may be needed in the event of an emergency situation.

RRMS ATHLETICS

Chrissy Brando, Athletic Director
cbrando@pasco.k12.fl.us

All 7th and 8th graders may participate in the middle school athletic program. Students must have a valid physical form submitted prior to tryouts. Upon making the team, the following athletic participation fees apply:

- *Athletic Participation Fee:* \$50 1st sport, \$30 2nd sport;
Family cap per school \$125, Individual cap \$80

FALL TRYOUTS

FOOTBALL: Head Coach Jeff Koos

Tryouts: August 9 – August 11 3PM - 5PM

CHEERLEADING: Head Coach Lynn Vairo

Tryouts: August 16-18 2PM - 4PM Dance Room

VOLLEYBALL: Head Coaches Chrissy Brando (8th),
Nicole Rossman (7th)

Tryouts: August 23-25 2 - 4PM

YEARBOOK

Yearbooks will be on sale during the school's Orientation Day through January 1st and will be available online or by contacting Ms. Baumaister at cbaumais@pasco.k12.fl.us for \$25. After January 1st, the price will increase to \$30. When the books arrive in May, the price will increase to \$35. We will also have a yearbook signing celebration exclusively for those students who purchased a yearbook in May.

Yearbooks may be purchased online through Lifetouch:
<https://ybpay.lifetouch.com/>

BIRTHDAY SONG FUNDRAISER

Celebrate your child's birthday with a Birthday Song at lunch from the Administrative Team, balloons, confetti, and an ice cream treat. Complete the form in the front office and provide to Mrs. Hammelman with \$5. All proceeds go to student and staff recognition.

ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a final rule, 40 CFR Part 763, Asbestos Containing Material in Schools, commonly referred to as AHERA. This rule requires all Local Education Agencies (LEA's) to identify asbestos containing materials (ACM) in their school buildings and to take appropriate actions to control the release of asbestos fibers. All inspections for River Ridge Middle/High School have been completed and a Management Plan describing the results of the inspection and the action plan to control any asbestos found during the inspections, where applicable, has been submitted to the Governor for approval. Copies of this plan are located in the administrative office of the school and at the District School Board of Pasco County Maintenance/Facility Operations Department. The report is available for review upon request.

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SCHOOL SUPPLIES

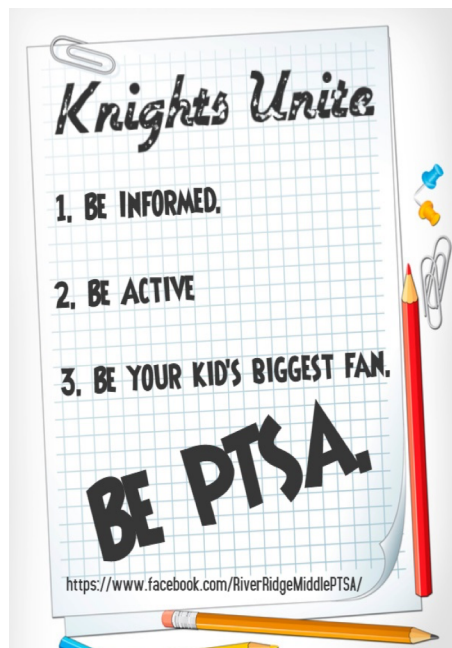
School supply lists will be posted on the RRMS website in August. Teachers will provide additional needs during the first week of school.

SIGN UP FOR MYSTUDENT!

We are excited to offer the district's student information systems (SIS) myStudent to help parents and students check attendance and grades online. Attendance is posted and updated daily. Individual teachers update grades periodically. Their timeline for entering grades may be daily, weekly, or twice per grading period - depending on their course. Multiple students can be shown on one parent account, even if the students are attending different secondary schools within Pasco County. Sign up at <https://launchpad.classlink.com/home>.

OPEN HOUSE – AUGUST 29

We will be hosting our annual Open House on Tuesday, August 29 from 6PM-7:30PM in a traditional format. You will be following your child's schedule getting the opportunity to meet our staff and get involved in your child's education. Teachers will explain class requirements, grading systems, and assignments. School counselors and other staff members will be available to answer questions.



HEALTH REQUIREMENTS & CLINIC INFO

Mark Clairmont, School Nurse, John Johns, Clinic Assistant
mclairmo@pasco.k12.fl.us, jjohns@pasco.k12.fl.us

All Pasco County students are required to be fully immunized. Students who are missing required immunizations will be unable to receive their schedules on Orientation/Registration Day. On Orientation Day, parents should complete and sign a medical emergency card listing any illnesses, medications, and emergency contact information.

Students are not allowed to carry ANY medications while at school. This includes prescription medications, over-the-counter medications, and medicines from health food stores. A student may carry an asthma inhaler with written permission from a doctor and a parent. All other medications that are scheduled to be administered during school hours MUST be stored in the clinic along with a signed parental form. Questions about health requirements, medications, and other health services may be directed to our school nurse, Mr. Mark Clairmont after August 14th.

KNIGHT CAFÉ INFORMATION FREE & REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM

Pam Midkiff, Cafeteria Manager
pmidkiff@pasco.k12.fl.us

Families are required to apply for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program yearly. Applications open online on July 1, 2017. Sign up online at:
<https://www.schoollunchapp.com/District.aspx>

Current Meal Prices:
Reduced Price Breakfast: \$0.30
Reduced Price Lunch: \$0.40

Full Price Breakfast \$1.50
Full Price Lunch \$3.00

Sign up to pay for meals online at www.myschoolbucks.com.

JOIN THE RRMS PTSA!

WHAT IS PTSA: PTA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit association that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth.

HOW DO I JOIN: Send in \$5 per member with a completed membership form which can be found on our website. All students will also receive a membership form over the summer, at Orientation, and during their first week of school.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS: Aside from being the brain behind PTSA events, you will also be the first to know about all school related information and legislation efforts. Our PTSA also enjoys receiving amazing national discounts.

CONTACT US: RiverRidgeMSPTSA@gmail.com
<http://riverridgemsptsa.wixsite.com/riverridgemsptsa>

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

Mrs. Angie Murphy, Principal (8th Grade)
amurphy@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7208

Mr. Paul Lipinski, Assistant Principal (7th Grade)
plipinsk@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7234

Mrs. Amy Riddle, Assistant Principal (6th Grade)
ariddle@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7238

Mrs. Jena Ferry, Administrative Intern (8th Grade)
jferry@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7200

Corporal Steve Harris, SRO
774-7223

Mrs. Julia Collins, School Counselor (7th Grade)
mcollins@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7253

Mrs. Kerry Iannone, School Counselor (8th Grade)
kiannone@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7220

Mr. Ron Vickery, School Counselor (6th Grade)
rvickery@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7252

Ms. Renee DiVincent, SSAP
rdvince@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7306

Mrs. Michelle Hudson, School Social Worker
mhudson@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7259

Mr. Mark Clairmont, School Nurse; Mr. John Johns, Clinic Asst.
mclairmo@pasco.k12.fl.us, jjohns@pasco.k12.fl.us
774-7213

Mr. Nathan Java, Student Discipline
njava@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7200

Mrs. Flo Cione, Bookkeeper
fcione@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7216

Mrs. Sue Hammelman, Attendance
shammelm@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7209

Mrs. Chrissy Brando, Athletic Director
cbrando@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7187

IMPORTANT RRMS DATES

****Dates & events are subject to change**

Band Camp – July 17-20 7:30AM-4:30PM
Storm the Castle for 6th & New RRMS Students – August 2
County-wide Secondary Registration Day – August 8
First Day of School for Students – August 14
RRMS Book Fair – August 25-September 1
RRMS Open House – August 29 6PM
School Pictures - August 30 (Tentative)
RRHS Open House – September 1
Labor Day – No School – September 4
Quarter 1 Progress Reports – September 15
River Ridge Community Tailgate/Football – September 22 5:30PM
6th Grade Math Parent Night – September 27 6PM
Fall Dance – October 6
History Fair Parent Night – October TBD
Quarter 1 Ends – October 13
Teacher Planning Day – No School – October 16
River Ridge Spirit Week _ October 17-October 20
Quarter 1 Report Cards – October 23
Career Exploration & RRHS Academy/RRMS Program Night – November 1
Fall Drama Performance – November 2-4
Quarter 2 Progress Reports – November 17
Thanksgiving Break – November 20-November 24
Winter Dance - December 15
Quarter 2 Ends – December 22
Winter Break – December 25 – January 8
MLK Jr. Day – No School – January 15
Quarter 2 Report Cards – January 16
Quarter 3 Progress Reports – February 9
Parent Night/Curriculum Showcase – February 21 6PM
FSA ELA Writing Window – February 26-March 7
Spring Dance - March 9
Quarter 3 Ends – March 16
Spring Break – March 19-23
Quarter 3 Report Cards – March 27
Spring Drama Performance – March 29-31 (TBD)
FSA ELA/Math Windows – April 9 – May 4
Algebra 1, Geometry, Civics EOCs Windows – April 16 – May 11
Quarter 4 Progress Reports – April 27
NGSSS Science Grade 8 Window – April 30-May 4
District Finals Window – May 7-24
Gradventure @ Universal – May 11
RRMS Athletics Dinner & Banquet – May 16 5:30PM
Yearbook Signing Party – May TBD
8th Grade Dance – May 18 6PM-8PM
8th Grade Night of Excellence Awards Ceremony – May 22 6PM
8th Grade Picnic – May 23 12PM-2PM
8th Grade Promotion Ceremony – May 24 8AM RRMS/HS Gym
Last Day of School – May 25
7th Grade Crowning Breakfast – May 25



RIVER RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULE

Campus opens to students at 7:00AM

1st Period: 7:25-8:20 (News)

2nd Period: 8:24-9:15

3rd Period: 9:19-10:10

4th Period: 10:14-11:05

6th Grade "Knight Time": 10:10-10:30

6th Grade Lunch: 10:34-11:05

5th Period: 11:09-12:00

7th Grade "Knight Time": 11:05-11:25

7th Grade Lunch: 11:29-12:00

6th Period: 12:04-12:55

8th Grade "Knight Time": 12:00-12:30

8th Grade Lunch: 12:24-12:55

7th Period: 12:59-1:50

TARDY POLICY

What to do if you're tardy...

- Immediately report to the Front Office.
- You will be issued a pass to class.
- Students may not be in the hallways without a pass.

Acceptable Reasons for Tardiness:

MEDICAL AND DENTAL APPOINTMENTS

Must be accompanied by a doctor's note.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Must be accompanied by official court documents.

TRAFFIC DUE TO AN ACCIDENT

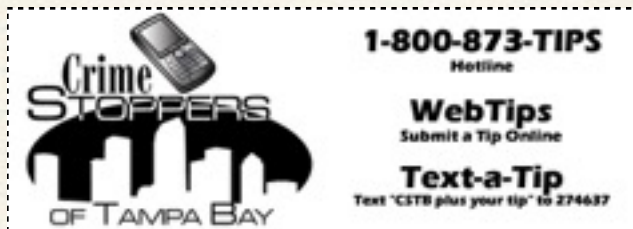
Provided that the school has been notified of the accident and that it may affect a significant number of the school population.

POWER OUTAGES

Resulting from a major storm that affects a significant number of the school population.

ILLNESS OF THE STUDENT

Must be accompanied by a parent note. If illness is causing tardiness more than 3 times per month, please contact school nurse for assistance.



Do you need to report a crime?

There are several ways to report information to law enforcement:

1. Speak to your School Resource Officer (SRO) at your school.
2. Speak to ANY adult at your school.
3. Choose to report anonymously at this link, or call or text to the phone numbers listed above.

<https://www.tipsubmit.com/WebTips.aspx?AgencyID=155>

Are you or someone you love at risk for suicide?

Get the facts and take appropriate action!



DRESS CODE

- Sexually explicit, see-through, and tight spandex clothing are not appropriate apparel for school.
- Clothing that is offensive may not be worn. It cannot contain derogatory/harassing remarks or have implicit pictures or language. Clothes cannot identify students with gangs or antisocial groups, or advertise tobacco, alcohol or drugs.
- All shorts and skirts must be no shorter than four (4) inches above the knee. Shorts, skirts or shirts worn underneath sheer/lace clothing must also meet all dress code requirements.
- Tops must be long enough to clearly overlap the pant line or stay tucked in during the course of normal movement throughout the school day.
- Pants will be worn securely so that abdominal skin or undergarments are not exposed. Pants may not have holes in them (4) inches above the knee that expose skin or undergarments.
- The neckline of a shirt or top cannot dip below a line formed between the right and left armpit.
- Muscle shirts, tank tops, spaghetti straps, bikini tops, strapless or halter tops are not permitted. Shirts and tops must "cup" over the shoulder for both boys and girls. Shirts or tops must not slide off the shoulder during the normal course of movement throughout the school day.
- Pajamas or other costume-type attire may not be worn except for designated dress-up days.
- Students shall not bring and/or wear hats, head coverings, or bandannas on the school campus unless previously approved for medical or religious reasons or special school activities designated by the Principal.
- Students must wear shoes for foot protection and hygienic reasons while on school grounds or on school transportation. Slippers are not acceptable.
- Sunglasses may be worn outside or in the commons areas but must be put away in the classroom.
- Jewelry shall be worn in a way that does not present a safety or health hazard or cause a major disruption to the educational process. Wallet chains, chains that hang off of clothing, spiked jewelry, and dog collars are not permitted.
- Decorations, symbols, mottos, or designs imprinted or attached to the body, clothing, accessories or student vehicle which contain profanity in any form, violent images, images of weapons are considered vulgar, offensive to good taste or the maintenance of decorum, or which contain sexually suggestive words, phrases or images, advertise tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or which identify them as members of secret antisocial groups or gangs shall not be worn to school or school functions. Offensive designs imprinted on the body must be covered.



DRESS CODE CONSEQUENCES

First Offense

Students in violation of the school dress code will be required to change into appropriate clothing. Inappropriate clothing will NOT be allowed to be covered up with a jacket or other garments. Failure to comply will result in parent contact and may result in a referral or detention.

Repeat Offense

Each subsequent violation will result in student being required to change and serve detention, or may result in the student being sent home. Acts of defiance and argumentative behavior could result in more severe consequences, including out-of-school suspension (OSS).



CHECK

GRADES, ATTENDANCE, ETC.

myStudent

Students and parents/guardians should monitor student progress daily. Sign up for a myStudent account to stay active and informed.

<https://launchpad.classlink.com/home>



Are you or is someone you know being bullied? There are several ways to report this information to adults:

1. Speak to ANY adult at your school.
2. Tell your parents and have them call the school.
3. Go to this link and report it anonymously.

<http://dimc.pasco.k12.fl.us/stopbullying/form.html>

ATTENDANCE POLICY

1. A PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IN WRITING AND JUSTIFY THE ABSENCE WITHIN 3 DAYS OF YOUR RETURN TO SCHOOL. THIS CAN BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY OR ON PAPER.
2. UPON REVIEW OF YOUR NOTE, STUDENT SERVICES WILL MAKE THE CHANGE FROM UNEXCUSED TO EXCUSED IN YOUR ATTENDANCE RECORDS.
3. FAILURE TO SUBMIT PROPER DOCUMENTATION WITHIN 3 DAYS WILL CAUSE THE ABSENCE TO BE RECORDED AS "UNEXCUSED."



ACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR ABSENCES

1. ILLNESS OF STUDENT
2. MAJOR ILLNESS IN THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF THE STUDENT (IMMEDIATE FAMILY IS DEFINED AS PARENTS, BROTHERS, SISTERS, GRANDPARENTS, AUNTS, UNCLES, LEGAL GUARDIANS, OR PERSONS IN LOCO PARENTIS, OR A MEMBER OF ONE'S OWN HOUSEHOLD)
3. DEATH IN THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF THE STUDENT
4. RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY OF THE STUDENT'S FAITH
5. RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (BAR/BAT MITZVAH, CONFIRMATION, ETC...)
6. RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES, CONFERENCES, OR WORKSHOPS (WITH PRIOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL)
7. ABSENCES FOR TRIPS OR OTHER PARENTAL REQUESTS THAT ARE DETERMINED TO BE EDUCATIONALLY RELEVANT FOR THE STUDENT BY THE PRINCIPAL (WITH PRIOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL)
8. OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION
9. SUBPOENA OR FORCED ABSENCE BY ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY. A COPY MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL
10. SCHOOL RELATED ABSENCES ARE NOT COUNTED AS ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

Wireless Communication Policy

What is a Wireless Communication Device (WCD)?

For purposes of this policy, "wireless communication device" includes computers, tablets (e.g., iPads and similar devices), electronic readers ("e-readers"; e.g., Kindles and similar devices), cell phones (e.g., mobile/cellular telephones, smartphones (e.g., BlackBerry, iPhone, Android devices, Windows Mobile devices, etc.), telephone paging devices (e.g., beepers or pagers), and/or other web-enabled devices of any type.

Wireless Communication Device Policy

Technology including, but not limited to, WCDs intended and actually used for instructional purposes (e.g., taking notes, recording classroom lectures, writing papers) will be permitted, as approved by the classroom teacher or the building principal.

The use of a WCD to engage in non-education-related communications during instructional time is expressly prohibited.

Students may use WCDs provided such uses do not create a distraction, disruption, or otherwise interfere with the educational environment at the following times:

- *Before and after school*
- *During their lunch break*
- *In between classes*
- *During after-school activities (extra-curricular activities)*
- *At school-related functions*
- *While on the school bus*

Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment will not be tolerated.

Use of WCDs, except those approved by a teacher or administrator, at any other time is prohibited and they must be **powered completely off and stored out of sight (not just placed into vibrate or silent mode)**.

Using a WCD to capture, record and/or transmit audio and/or pictures/video of an individual without proper consent is considered an invasion of privacy and is not permitted.

The use of WCDs that contain built-in cameras (i.e. devices that take still or motion pictures, whether in a digital or other format) is prohibited in locker rooms, shower facilities, and/or rest/bathrooms.

Students shall have no expectation of confidentiality with respect to their use of WCDs on school premises/property.

Students are also prohibited from using a WCD to capture, record and/or transmit test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty. Likewise, students are prohibited from using WCDs to receive such information.

Possession of a WCD by a student at school during school hours and/or during extra-curricular activities is a privilege that may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy, or otherwise abuses this privilege.

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REP THE RIDGE – #WEAREROYAL

New class t-shirts and RRMS Spirit items are available to purchase in the front office from Mrs. Hammelman or at the Orientation Days on August 2 and August 8.

Get yours today! Sizes range from YM-Adult 2XL.

Short sleeve t-shirts \$10

Long sleeve t-shirts \$16

Sweatshirts \$25

Sling Packs \$3 - Water Bottles \$3

