

River Ridge Middle School

Class of 2023

8th Grade Mid-Year Newsletter



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

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS TO HIGH SCHOOL

The state mandate (**F.S. 1003.4156**) requires that middle school students complete a Language Arts, Math, Science, & Social Studies course each year with a minimum grade of “D” to be promoted to high school. Middle School students must also sit for the State Civics Assessment.

8TH GRADE REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS

All 8th Graders will take the following assessments:

- Florida Standards Assessment ELA
- Florida Standards Assessment 8th Grade Math or Algebra I EOC or Geometry I EOC
- NGSSS FCAT 8th Grade Science
- District End-of-Course Final Exams

PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The 19-20 course selection process will begin when we return from winter break. Mrs. Collins, School Counselor, will assist students in learning more about high school coursework and program options. Please see the tentative timeline below.

- December 3-14th Pasco County Schools School Choice Window – families must apply through myStudent for the 19-20 school year
- December 6th RRHS Presentation on Academies Period 2
- December 10th-11th RRHS Academy Tours – students can sign up through school counselor
- December 13th-14th High School elective tours – AP Human Geography, World Languages, JROTC, etc.
- January 22nd RRHS Presentation on Course Selection (Honors and AP) through Social Studies Classes
- February 1st Course Cards due to Social Studies teachers
- Course selection process/academy applications will be available on the RRHS website from December 1st – January 11th.
- March 15th: Future Knight Kick Off Pep Rally @ RRHS Gym



8TH GRADE FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips will be available to 8th graders who are “on track” for promotion. These are dates and prices but more information will be provided closer to the trips.

- March 1: Kennedy Space Center NASA, Cape Canaveral, FL \$70 (Due by February 1st)
- May 10: Gradventure @ Universal Studios/Islands of Adventure, Orlando, FL \$130

GRADVENTURE

The cost of the trip will be \$130 which includes bus transportation, admission to both theme parks, dinner, and the official 8th grade t-shirt for Gradventure. There are limited number of tickets (250) available and they will be reserved on a “first come, first serve” basis. Administration reserves the right to give preference to students who are “on track” for grades and behavior regardless of whether a student is one of the first 250 students. The final deadline to turn in all money and permission slips will be Friday, March 29. Students may turn in permission forms and payment to Ms. Sullivan RM 221 during 8th grade lunch. Please see the attached letter and permission form for more information.

YEARBOOK

Yearbook \$25 (through Jan. 1), \$30 (through May), \$35 (after arrival). Order online at <https://yearbookforever.com>. There will be a yearbook signing party for any student who purchases a yearbook in May.

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8TH GRADE CONTACTS:

Mr. Kevin Kolean, Assistant Principal
Kkolean@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7234

Mrs. Julia Collins, School Counselor
mcollins@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7253

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

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

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

IMPORTANT 8TH GRADE DATES

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

Winter Dance - December 7
 Quarter 2 Ends - December 21
 Winter Break - December 24 - January 7
 Quarter 2 Report Cards - January 14
 MLK Jr. Day - No School - January 21
 HS Course Cards due-February 1
 Pep Rally - February 1 (Tentative)
 Quarter 3 Progress Reports - February 8
 Valentine's Dance-February 14 2PM-4PM
 NASA Field Trip - March 1
 Spring Dance - March 8
 8th Grade RRHS Pep Rally - March 15
 Quarter 3 Ends - March 15
 Spring Break - March 18-25
 Quarter 3 Report Cards - April 2
 FSA ELA Writing Window-April 1-April 12
 Quarter 4 Progress Reports - April 26
 FSA ELA/Math, NGSSS Science Grade 8, Algebra 1, Geometry, Civics
 EOCs Windows - May 1 - May 28
 District Finals Window - May 7-24
 Gradventure @ Universal - May 10
 RRMS Athletics Dinner & Banquet - May 15 5:30PM
 Yearbook Signing Party - May TBD
 8th Grade Dance - May 17 6PM-8PM
 8th Grade Night of Excellence Awards Ceremony - May 21 6PM
 8th Grade Picnic - May 23 12PM-2PM
 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony - May 24 8AM RRMS/HS Gym
 Last Day of School - May 29

SAVE THE DATES: END OF YEAR 8TH GRADE ACTIVITIES

8th graders wishing to participate in the end of year activities must meet eligibility requirements. Any 8th grade student who does not pass their current courses and/or fails to complete any course recovery from 6th or 7th grade will be ineligible to participate in any 8th grade end of year activities (4th quarter), because he/she would not have met the mandatory requirements for promotion to high school. There will be a \$15 8th Grade Activity Fee which will include the 8th grade dance and picnic participation. **All final decisions on academic eligibility for end of year activities will be determined by administration and will be based on students meeting promotion guidelines.**

- May 10: Gradventure
- May 17: 8th Grade Dance
- May 21 : 8th Grade Celebration of Excellence Awards
- May 23 : 8th Grade Picnic

PROMOTION CEREMONY – MAY 24

River Ridge Middle School will host a Promotion Ceremony for the Class of 2023 at 8AM on Friday, May 24, 2019 in the RRMS/HS Gymnasium. This is a formal occasion to celebrate the accomplishments of our 8th graders being promoted to high school. We invite family and friends to join us to recognize our outstanding 8th grade class.

