

River Ridge Middle School

Class of 2024

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" as well as a career component (as a part of World History class) 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 20-21 course selection process will begin when we return from winter break. Mrs. Stanton, School Counselor, will assist students in learning more about high school coursework and program options. Please see the tentative timeline below.

- December 3-13: Pasco County Schools School Choice Window – families must apply through myStudent for the 20-21 school year
- December 12: RRHS Presentation on Academies in Theaters for All 8th graders - Period 2
- December 16-20: RRHS Academy Tours and High School elective tours: AP Human Geography, World Languages, JROTC, etc. – students can sign up through school counselor
- January 21-24: RRHS Presentation on Course Selection (Honors and AP) through Social Studies Classes
- January 29: Course Cards due to Social Studies teachers
- Course selection process/academy applications will be available on the RRHS website from December 2nd – January 17.
- TBD: Future Knight Kick Off Pep Rally @ RRHS Gym



8TH GRADE FIELD TRIPS

We expect to have the following field trips available to 8th graders who are "on track" for promotion. These are tentative dates and prices but more information will be provided closer to the trips.

- January 14, 16, 17 (based on ELA teacher): Holocaust Museum St. Petersburg, FL
Cost: TBD
- May 8: Gradventure @ Universal Studios/Islands of Adventure, Orlando, FL \$140

GRADVENTURE

The cost of the trip will be \$140 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 27. Students may turn in permission forms and payment to Ms. Sullivan RM 23-223 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. Contact Mrs. Baumaister for more information.

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8TH GRADE CONTACTS:

Mrs. Angie Murphy, Principal
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Mrs. Danielle White, Assistant Principal
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Mrs. Monica Stanton, School Counselor
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Mrs. Michelle Hudson, School Social Worker
mhudson@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7259

Mrs. Theresa Mundy, School Nurse
tmundy@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**

Early Release – December 11
 District Finals Window – December 16-20
 Quarter 2 Ends – December 20
 Winter Break – December 23 – January 6
 Quarter 2 Report Cards – January 14
 Early Release – January 15
 MLK Jr. Day – No School – January 20
 Quarter 3 Progress Reports – February 7
 Talent Show – February 7
 Early Release – February 12
 Valentine's/Kindness Dance – February 14
 President's Day – No School – February 17
 Early Release – March 11
 Quarter 3 Ends – March 13
 Spring Break – March 16-March 23
 Quarter 3 Report Cards – March 31
 FSA ELA Writing Window – April 1-14
 Spring Dance – April 3
 Early Release – April 8
 No School – April 10
 Quarter 4 Progress Reports – April 24
 FSA ELA/Math Windows – May 1-29
 Algebra 1, Geometry, Civics EOCs Windows – May 1-29
 NGSSS Science Grade 8 Window – May 4-15
 Gradventure @ Universal – May 8
 RRMS Athletics Dinner & Banquet – May 13 6PM
 Yearbook Signing Party – May TBD
 8th Grade Dance – May 15 6PM-9PM
 District Finals Window – May 18-27
 8th Grade Night of Excellence Awards Ceremony – May 18 6PM
 8th Grade Picnic – May 21 12PM-2PM
 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony – May 22 8AM RRMS/HS Gym
 Memorial Day – No School – May 25
 Last Day of School – May 27

SAVE THE DATES: END OF YEAR 8TH GRADE ACTIVITIES

8th graders wishing to participate in the end of year activities must meet eligibility requirements and pay the \$15 activity fee. 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. **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 8: Gradventure (separate fee)
- May 15: 8th Grade Dance (included in the activity fee)
- May 18: 8th Grade Celebration of Excellence Awards
- May 21: 8th Grade Picnic (included in the activity fee)

PROMOTION CEREMONY – MAY 22

River Ridge Middle School will host a Promotion Ceremony for the Class of 2024 at 8AM on Friday, May 22 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.

