



River Ridge Middle School

Class of 2026

Transitioning to 8th Grade Year

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

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

We are attempting a "touch-free" orientation day, please complete the "know before you go" steps listed below before coming to Meet the Teacher - Open House (8/5) Day.

STEP 1: Create a myStudent Parent Portal

You can access your child's grades, view their schedule and stay connected in middle school by creating an account and ensuring your address and emergency contact information is up to date.

The portal will be open the week of Meet the Teacher.

STEP 2: Pay School Fees

Log in to your child's myStudent account and pay student fees for this school year. You can also purchase yearbooks at a discounted price, join our Opt Out fundraiser, purchase PE uniforms, classroom workbooks, and River Ridge spirit items. Instructions are enclosed for creating and accessing your Rycor/Acorn account.

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STEP 3: Print or Save Your Child's Schedule/Pick Up Items

Log in to your parent portal prior to coming to campus to download and print your child's middle school class schedule. Bring it with you when you attend the event. You can use this to explore our campus on a self-guided tour, visit the sessions, and pick up your pre-purchased items. On August 5th, you will visit the CAFETERIA first and pick up pre-purchased items.

MEDICATIONS FOR THE CLINIC CAN BE DROPPED OFF THE WEEK OF AUGUST 9TH BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

STORM THE CASTLE

NEW RRMS STUDENT ORIENTATION – AUGUST 5TH (AM)

New 8th graders to RRMS are invited to attend Storm the Castle on **Thursday, August 5th during your designated appointment slot.** We are asking, in order to reduce crowd size, to please have only one parent/guardian and the new student attend the event together during the selected two-hour orientation window. Please RSVP (REQUIRED) no later than July 30th at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d4aa8a82da2fe3-storm> - on the RRMS website or social media.

MEET THE TEACHER

OPEN HOUSE DAY

(RETURNING 7TH & 8TH GRADERS) – AUGUST 5TH (PM)

Thursday, August 5 is the County-wide Secondary Open House Day from 1PM-3PM in the River Ridge Middle School Cafeteria and on campus. The afternoon sessions are primarily for returning 7th and 8th grade students. We are asking to please have only one parent/guardian with the student during the Open House window.

We highly encourage that you follow the Know Before You Go procedures before you arrive on campus. Completing all steps VIRTUALLY including student information, paying fees/ordering items, printing schedules then come to pick up items in the cafeteria and find your classes by touring the campus.

WHAT CAN I DO TO PREPARE FOR 8TH GRADE YEAR EXPENSES?

The list below contains the majority of the 8th grade year expenses but may not include all expenses. Budgeting is the best way to manage these expenses as we have spread them throughout the year. You may pay for all expenses online through the Acorn/Rycor system.

Required:

- *General Course Fees: TBD based on courses*
- *Athletic Participation Fee: \$50 1st sport, \$30 2nd sport (Collected prior to playing the sport)*

Optional:

- Class of 2026 T-shirt \$10 (included with Gradventure cost)
- Yearbook \$25 (through Jan. 1), \$30 (through May), \$35 (after arrival)
Order online at yearbookforever.com or cash/check to Ms. Baumaister.
- School Pictures TBD
- School Dances (Fall, Winter, Spring) \$10
- NASA Field Trip (Adv. Science)/Field Trip T-shirt \$85
- Gradventure/8th Grade Gradventure T-shirt \$160
- 8th Grade Activity Fee (8th grade dance, picnic, promotion ceremony) \$25





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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 to be promoted to high school (as a part of World History class through myLearning). Middle School students must also sit for the State Civics Assessment.

8TH GRADE REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS

All 8th Graders will take the following assessments:

- NWEA Map Assessment (Diagnostic)/Quarterly Checks
- Florida Standards Assessment ELA
- Florida Standards Assessment 8th Grade Math or Algebra I EOC or Geometry I EOC
- NGSSS FCAT 8th Grade Science (unless already took in 7th grade Accl. Science)
- District End-of-Course Final Exams

8TH GRADE CONTACTS:

Mrs. Angie Murphy, Principal
amurphy@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7208

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

Mrs. Michelle White, School Counselor
mlwhite@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7253

Ms. Stacy Williams, School Social Worker
sswillia@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7259

Mrs. Theresa Mundy, School Nurse
tmundy@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7213

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

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

SCHOOL SPIRIT WEEKS

8th graders get ready to show your Royal Spirit with dress up days, games, and special events/activities. Who's going to win the Spirit Stick?

- River Ridge Spirit Week (Homecoming): October 11-15
- Winter Spirit Week: December 13-17
- Kindness Week: February 14-18
- Spring Spirit Week: March 22-25

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.

- December 3rd: Kennedy Space Center NASA, Cape Canaveral, FL \$85 (8th Grade Science/Adv. Science/Physical Science Honors)
- January/February: Holocaust Museum St. Petersburg, FL Cost: TBD
- May 6th: Gradventure @ Universal Studios/Islands of Adventure, Orlando, FL \$160

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. **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 6th: Gradventure
- May 13th: 8th Grade Dance 6PM-9PM
- May 16th: 8th Grade Celebration of Excellence Awards 6PM
- May 20th: Promotion Practice/8th Grade Video/8th Grade Picnic

River Ridge Middle School will host a Promotion Ceremony for the Class of 2026 at 8AM on Monday, May 23 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.