

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

We are excited to welcome our Royal Knights back to the River Ridge campus this year! Our school-wide theme this year is **SET THE ROYAL STANDARD. RAISE THE BAR!** We are committed to building strong relationships and doing whatever it takes to ensure students are loved, safe, and achieve success! As in the past, when things get tough and the unexpected happens, we will come together as a Royal Family, students, staff, and families, because our commitment is unmatched as the best middle school in all the land.

This year, we welcome parents, guardians, and community members to campus to volunteer in the classrooms, as mentors, at lunchtime, and at extra-curricular and after-school events. The home-school partnership is essential for student engagement and success. This newsletter is our first step to ensuring that families are informed and actively participate in their students' experiences. There is important information in this newsletter, so please review it. As always, please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need clarification.

To promote the in-person academic and social engagement of our students while at school and at school-related activities, the district has established more specific expectations regarding the use of Wireless Communication Devices (WCDs) for the upcoming school year. Students who bring WCDs, including cellphones and wireless earbuds, must ensure that they remain in silent mode and completely out of view for the whole of the school day, including passing except for the student's lunch period or as expressly authorized by the classroom teacher for a specific instructional activity. These expectations also apply to extracurricular and co-curricular activities that occur before or after the school day. We anticipate this may be difficult for students but look forward to partnering with families to ensure learning is always at the forefront while at school.

We look forward to welcoming all 6<sup>th</sup> graders and new students to Storm the Caste on Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM-12 PM by RSVP appointment. There will also be an Open House – Meet the Teacher for returning 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders on Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup> from 8AM-12PM. These are great opportunities to start the new year off right!

Please connect with River Ridge by following us on social media, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and our school website. We want our families to be informed of all the Royal opportunities for campus involvement. We also encourage you to join our amazing PTSA, which supports our school through student incentives, community events, advocacy, and educational opportunities for parents/students.

Together, as a Royal Family, we look forward to providing a safe and engaging learning environment where our students will excel and have a fantastic year!

NOTE: This information is accurate as of 7.5.23 but may be subject to change. Please always check the RRMS website & social media for the most up-to-date information.

# River Ridge Middle School ROYAL UPDATE

Be RESPECTFUL. Be RESPONSIBLE. Be A PROBLEM SOLVER.

STORM THE CASTLE & MEET THE TEACHER-OPEN HOUSE JULY 27<sup>th</sup> 8AM-12:00PM 6<sup>th</sup> Grade & New Students By Appt. Please RSVP at this link by 7/22!



This event is intended to provide 6<sup>th</sup> graders and new Royal Knights with an orientation of the campus, review our school-wide expectations, meet teachers and staff, and ensure this is the best year yet!

There will be Parent Information sessions in the theater at 8:15AM, 9:00AM, 10:15AM, and 11:00AM to discuss transitioning to River Ridge Middle School and how you can set your student up for success. Then, you can complete the Conquer the Castle campus tour with interactive QR Codes to help you along the way to find your classrooms, meet your teachers, and other important places on campus. There will be plenty of Royal Knights along the way to help you!

We highly encourage families to visit myStudent Parent Portal to complete the emergency card, pay fees, and download the student schedule before coming to campus. We will also have opportunities for you to purchase River Ridge spirit items and PE/Dance uniforms online with pick up on this day. Please read the Know Before You Go section before attending the event.

#### AUGUST 4TH 8AM-12:00PM RETURNING 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

This event is intended for returning 7th and 8th Graders to walk their schedules and pick up any pre-purchased items. Schedules and Fees will only be available online before coming to campus. Please enter by the middle school front office. Maps will be available for the school nurse (TDaP Shot Records - 7th Grade), spirit wear, and PTSA. Staff will have QR Codes on their doors to introduce their class and themselves.

Riverridgemiddle

@RRMSRoyalKnight



Instagram

Angie Murphy, Principal

## River Ridge Middle School 2023 Orientation Days Information

## All 6th graders & new students to RRMS...



## Thursday, July 27th 8AM-12PM

#### RSVP for a 2-hour block by 7/21 at the link on the RRMS website or at the QR Code below.



This event is intended to help new Royals learn the lay of the land, meet administrators, counselors and teachers, and explore the exciting opportunities to get involved, stay connected, and safe in the new school year! Both students and parents are invited to attend the event together during the selected two-hour orientation window. Before coming on campus, you should complete the 'Know Before You Go' steps in myStudent.

You should start in the CAFETERIA were schedules will be available for new students only. You can also pick up all pre-purchased items like workbooks and spirit items. Each 6th grader and new student will be given a free RRMS spirit pack to welcome them to the castle at this time.

8:15AM, 9:00AM, 10:15AM, 11:00AM: Informational Meeting About the New Year/Transitioning to RRMS with Administration and Counselors: THEATER: Middle school is the most important time to stay connected to your child's progress as they transition with independence. Learn about the exciting opportunities and expectations at RRMS for the 2023-24 school year. This presentation will include how to stay connected and informed as a new Royal family, campus expectations, academic opportunities, clubs and sports participation requirements and more. Learn how to access myPascoConnect for online textbooks and other applications, myStudent to monitor grades and attendance, PBIS Rewards, which is our school-wide positive behavior incentive program and a variety of other digital communication tools. School counselors and administrators will be available at this session.

**Conquer the Castle Interactive Campus Tour:** After picking up your schedule/paying fees, etc. at the Welcome/Pick up in the CAFETERIA, walk the campus to see where classes will be and become familiar with the campus prior to the first day! This will help to ease those first day jitters by mapping the safest and fastest path to classes. There will be interactive QR Codes at each location introducing the staff and important details of the location. Find important locations like the front office, clinic, student services, cafeteria, media, and gymnasium. There will be plenty of Royal Knights to help you find your way!

## **KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**

Please complete the "know before you go" steps listed below before coming on to campus for your designated event to ensure a stress-free orientation.

#### 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.

#### STEP 2: Pay School Fees

Go to: https://www.studentquickpay.com/pasco You can pay school fees and also purchase yearbooks at a discounted price, join our Opt Out fundraiser, purchase PE uniforms, classroom workbooks, and River Ridge spirit items. BRING YOUR RECEIPT WITH YOU!

#### STEP 3: Print or Save Your Child's

Schedule & Print/Save Receipts to Pick Up Items Log in to your parent portal 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. It is highly recommended that you print your schedule at home. There will be tables in the media center to pick up prepurchased items only. For incoming 6th graders and new students attending Storm the Castle, schedules will be available in the CAFETERIA but it is highly recommended that you pay fees and print your schedule prior to the event. For returning 7th and 8th graders, you will need to pay fees and print your schedule prior to the event.

## Returning 7th & 8th Graders Open House -Walk your Schedule & Pick Up Pre-Paid Items



### Friday, August 4th 8AM-12PM

This event is intended for returning 7th and 8th Graders to walk their schedules and pick up any pre-purchased items. Schedules and Fees will only be available online prior to coming to campus. Please enter by the middle school front office. There will be maps available as well as tables for school nurse (TDaP Shot Records - 7th Grade), spirit wear, and PTSA. Staff will have QR Codes on their doors to provide an introduction to their class and the new school year.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Martanovic, 6th Grade Assistant Principal, at kmartano@pasco.k12.fl.us.

#### 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. All progress reports and report cards will only be available through myStudent. All COMMUNICATION will come through myStudent this school year.



#### STAY CONNECTED THROUGH MYSTUDENT:

The myStudent App can be found by searching myStudent Pasco in each respective app store. Parents can log in to check grades, attendance, complete forms, and receive communications from Pasco Schools, RRMS, and individual teachers.

### HEALTH REQUIREMENTS & CLINIC INFO

Leah Janssen, School Nurse, Joanie Noe, Clinic Assistant All Pasco County students are required to be fully immunized. Students who are missing required immunizations will be unable to receive their schedules on Storm the Castle/Open House Days. <u>Parents need to go on myStudent Parent Portal to</u> complete the emergency card prior to Storm the Castle or Open House Day.

<u>Students are NOT allowed to carry ANY medications while at school.</u> 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.

<u>Healthy Student Program:</u> Paperwork available on the website or in this newsletter. Please return to the clinic.

- Management of acute illness or injury and the administration of limited medications, following physician guidelines and protocols (i.e. ibuprofen, Tylenol, Motrin, Robitussin, Tums, and antifungal ointment, Benadryl, hydrocortisone, etc.).
- Observation and follow up re: communicable diseases (i.e. pink eye, ringworm, etc.).
- A health professional will communicate with you about your child's particular health findings that may require an evaluation, follow up or referral.

Questions about health requirements, medications, and other health services may be directed to our school nurse, Ms. Leah Janssen at Ijanssen@pasco.k12.fl.us. Parents can make an appointment for the week of August 8th to drop off medications, etc. by contacting Ms. Noe at jnoe@pasco.k12.fl.us. All forms (parent permission to administer, medical management plans) are on the RRMS website under Clinic.

<u>7th GRADE TDAP REQUIREMENT:</u> 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 4th and prior to the first day of school. <u>Students who do not have the TDAP may not start</u> <u>school. All Pasco County students are required to be fully immunized.</u>

### SCHOOL SUPPLIES

School supply lists are posted on the RRMS website and included at the end of this newsletter. There is also the option of purchasing school supply boxes through <u>www.schooltoolbox.com</u> that will ship directly to your home. A portion of the proceeds from the School ToolBox supplies will come back to RRMS to be used for student and staff recognition. Students are HIGHLY RECOMMENDED to carry their own personal hand sanitizer, bring their own earbuds, calculator, water bottle and electronic device such as a laptop, tablet or iPad. Teachers will provide additional needs during the first week of school.

## SCHEDULE CHANGES

There will be no schedule changes completed at Storm the Castle/Meet the Teacher-Open House on 8/4. You may make a request online only. 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.

Due to the Class Size Amendment, no other requests for schedule changes will be honored. If your scheduling request meets the above criteria, please visit the link on the RRMS website.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORMS

Students taking Physical Education or Dance courses will be able to dress out and use the locker rooms this year. Locks can be purchased for \$9 on Rycor at Storm the Castle/Open House on July 27<sup>th</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup> or the first week of school.

We recommend purchasing PE uniforms for \$12 shirts or shorts or a combo for \$20. Dance uniforms are available for purchase for \$30 for a shirt and leggings. These items will be available on July  $27^{th}$  and August 4th, and the first few weeks of school for purchase.

### 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. An Active Threat Plan (ATP) drill is conducted each quarter. These drills allow staff and students to rehearse the procedures that may be needed in the event of an emergency situation.

## **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 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.

#### 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, 2023. Sign up online at: https://www.schoollunchapp.com/District.aspx

The federal Community Eligibility Program allows all students to receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost, regardless of family income.

Sign up to pay for A La Carte and additional food items online at <u>www.myschoolbucks.com</u>. Per FL SP 2.002 the Florida Competitive Foods Rule, there will be no outside food allowed in the cafeteria (including Uber Eats, Door Dash, etc.).

## **RRMS** ATHLETICS

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

All middle school students may participate in the middle school athletic program. Students must have a valid physical form and submit it through the Athletic Clearance website before tryouts. Please visit the RRMS website under Athletics for all required paperwork. Upon making the team, the following athletic participation fees apply and must be paid within 3 days of making the team:

Athletic Participation Fee: \$60 1st sport, \$40 2nd sport; • Family cap per school \$150, Individual cap \$100

### GOFAN.CO DIGITAL TICKETING AI

athletic tickets must be purchased on GoFan.co. We will not sell tickets at the gates. All middle school sports tickets will be \$5.

For each game, if you have purchased a season pass on GoFan.co, you will be guaranteed admission to all HOME athletic events. This All-Access Pass entitles the holder to claim a single ticket for each River Ridge home game for the 2023-24 season. \*\*This pass is not valid for FHSAA State Series events. Season passes are \$60.

Free Admission passes (PCSB Employees, FHSAA passes) - We will hold back a limited number of tickets up until game time. Under-schoolage children will still be let in free with parents (up to capacity).

#### **BAG PROCEDURE**

Only bags that are clear plastic and/or vinly, Ziploc bags, small clutch-type purses no larger than 4 inches by 6 inches, diaper bags, and medically necessary items are permitted inside an event venue. No other bags of AIV kind are permitted, except for property credentialed school and professional pholographers' camera bags. ALL BAGS ARE SUBJECT TO SEARCH UPON ENTRY.

#### **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

will be made

- Firearms, weapons of any kind, knives · Pets (exceptions will be mad Any item that could be used as a missile · Sticks/poles/camera "selfie"
- sticks/extenders or gimbals Unmanned Aircraft Systems/ drones and radio controlled Fireworks Aerosol cans (pump and spray bug
- - model aircraft · Food and drinks not purchased
- Aerosol cans (pump and spray bug spray and sunscreen are allowed) Coolers, glass Recreational balls, horns, lasers Camera, computer, binoculars cases Illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages of any king of any kind
  - at the venue (sealed non-alcoholic beverages are allowed to be brought in by ticketed ADULTS only.

#### PATRON CODE OF CONDUCT

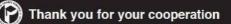
Students are expected to abide by the Pasco County Schools Student Code of Conduct. When attending a game, you are required to refrain from the ving behaviors

- 1. Behavior that is unruly, disruptive or illegal in nature 2. Intoxication or other signs of alcohol impairment that results in irresponsible behavior

- that results in irresponsible behavior 3. Foul or abusive language or obscene gestures 4. Interference with the progress of the game (including throwing objects onto the field) 5. Failing to follow instructions of school officials 6. Verbal or physical harassment of opposing team fans

Event patrons are responsible for their conduct as well as the conduct of their guests. Event patrons and guests who violate these provisions will be subject to ejection without refund and loss of ticket privileges for future games.

No re-entry if a patron leaves, and no entry or tioket sales after 3/4 of any event has expired.



## FALL SPORTS TRYOUTS

Students must have the complete athletic packet filled out and Notarized, including an up-to-date physical, and ALL paperwork must be uploaded in the Athletic Clearance to participate in tryouts. FOOTBALL: Head Coach Jeff Koos - meet at boys' locker room August 10-14 1:30PM-4PM

CHEERLEADING: Head Coach Lynn Vairo – meet in Dance Room August 14-16 1:30PM-3:30PM

VOLLEYBALL: Head Coaches Chrissy Brando (Varsity), Ed Coller (JV) Meet at girls' locker room August 16 6th & 7th Grade; August 17-18 8th Grade & Callbacks 1:30PM-3:30PM

#### VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

September 11	@ Hudson Academy
September 13	vs. SRK8 (Home)
September 18	vs. CHMS
September 20	vs. SSMS
September 25	@ GMS
September 27	vs. PRSMS
October 2	@ BPMS
October 4	@ CLMS at 6PM. Varsity immediately following.

### JV begins at 6PM, Varsity immediately following.

#### FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

September 6	@ Hudson Academy (HHS)
September 12	vs. SRK8 (HOME)
September 19	vs. CHMS (HOME)
September 26	vs. SSMS (HOME)
October 3	@ GMS (GHS)
October 10	vs. PRSMS (HOME) – Parent Night/Pink Out
October 18	@ BPMS (FHS)
October 24	@ CLMS (HHS) Games begin at 6:30PM.

## RIVER RIDGE COMMUNITY NIGHT River

Ridge Middle and High School will be hosting a community night at one of the high school Varsity football game. At this game, the middle school band, cheerleaders, volleyball teams and football team will be recognized. We are excited to celebrate our amazing River Ridge community!

## JOIN THE RRMS PTSA!

**WHAT IS PTSA:** PTSA 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 PTSA 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 \$10 per adult and \$5 per student 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 legislative efforts.

**CONTACT US:** RiverRidgeMSPTSA@gmail.com https://riverridgemsptsa.memberhub.store/

#### 2023-24 RRMS PTSA Executive Board

President: Ana Schaus VP: Kari Glenny Treasurer: Karen Fischer Secretary: Jennifer Ferraz Corresponding Secretary: Alicia Mumma Teacher Liaison: Tara Fielding

## **VOLUNTEER INFORMATION**

Parents and community members can apply online to become an approved volunteer after July 1st. A new application must be completed each year. The application can be accessed on our district website http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us and must be renewed each year. 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, Sue Hammelman, can advise you of your approval status once you have submitted your application. You can contact her at shammelm@pasco.k12.fl.us or 774-7208.

### MS PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS 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/Health class through myLearning). Middle School students must also sit for the State Civics Assessment.

#### DISTRICT REQUIRED MS ASSESSMENTS

**District Finals**: These finals will be given at the end of each year/semester for courses without state assessments. They will count as 10% of the student's semester grade. The testing window is the last two weeks of the semester.

**State Assessments & EOCs:** These assessments will take place in April and May to measure student progress and proficiency of the grade level standards.

- FAST ELA Reading/Writing 6-8 (3x per year)
- FAST Math 6-8, Algebra I EOC, Geometry EOC
- FCAT NGSSS Science Grade 8 (and students in Physical Science/Accl. Science Honors 7th Grade)
- Civics EOC 30% of the student's year-long grade

## Opt Out Fundraiser

No Catalogs! No Order Forms! No Hassle! For a \$30 donation, you can opt out of the River Ridge Middle School Fundraiser this year. There is also a \$15 option for multiple students in one family. Simply fill out the form attached to the newsletter and pay with your school fees by cash, check or credit card during Storm the Castle/Meet the Teacher-Open House on 7/27 and 8/4. Your money will directly impact our student and staff incentive programs and technology. Your child will receive a River Ridge Middle School t-shirt. Your family can disregard all fundraiser communications and know that you have already done your part to help the school! Certain clubs, organizations or programs your child belongs to may still choose to hold a fundraiser to benefit their cause or other activities at school (ex. Band, FBLA, sports teams, PTSA, etc.).

## Yearbook

Yearbooks will be on sale during the school's Storm the Castle/Open House through October 31st and will be available online or by contacting Ms. Baumaister at cbaumais@pasco.k12.fl.us for \$25. From November 1-December 31, the price will increase to \$30. From January – April 30, the price will increase to \$35. When the books arrive in May, the price will increase to \$40. We will also have a yearbook signing celebration exclusively for those students who purchased a yearbook in May. Yearbooks may be purchased online through Walsworth: www.yearbookforever.com. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade yearbook ads payment will be through Rycor for \$40.

## 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 Mrs. Cace with \$5. All proceeds go to student and staff recognition.

## SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

River Ridge Middle School and River Ridge High School will be hosting joint School Advisory Council meetings for the 2023-24 school year. Meetings will be held the third Thursday of each month in the RRMS/HS Front Conference Room at 2:00PM. We are looking for parent and business/community partners to participate in this important committee. Those parents and business/community partners who were 22-23 members will also continue this upcoming year. If you wish not to continue, please contact Mrs. Sumrall at ksumrall@pasco.k12.fl.us. Nominations for the 2023-24 School Advisory Council will be taken through September 2. Nominations can be made by contacting Mrs. Krystal Sumrall at ksumrall@pasco.k12.fl.us.

SAC Meeting Dates: 9/14, 10/19, 11/16, 12/14, 1/18, 2/15, 3/14, 4/18, 5/16 (only if needed)

## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES IF

you would like to request a parent teacher conference, please go to the RRMS website, and click the Parent Tab>Parent Teacher Conference Requests to complete the request form. All Parent Teacher Conferences will be held virtually through TEAMS after school at 1:40PM on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. A Student Services team member will be in contact with arrangements.



#### BE RESPECTFUL. BE RESPONSIBLE. BE A PROBLEM SOLVER.







#### WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICE

Cell phones Smartphones Smartwatches Wireless Earbuds Computers Tablets or iPads Other web-enabled devices of any type



#### WHAT IS A TARDY?

When a student is not physically inside the classroom door when the bell rings.

#### WHAT DO I DO IF I AM TARDY?

If it is at the beginning of the school day or you come late to school, immediately report to the front office. You will be issued a pass. If tardies and attendance become excessive, consequences may follow including but not limited to Lonely Lunch, After School Detention, etc.

#### WHERE IS THE DRESS CODE POLICY LOCATED?

On our RRMS website, in your planner, and posted throughout campus.

#### WHAT DO I DO IF I AM OUT OF DRESS CODE?

A staff member will send you to Student Services to log in for a Dress Code violation.

#### DOES DRESS CODE RESET?

Yes. Each guarter dress code resets.

#### WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES FOR DRESS CODE?

- 3)
- Warning & Change Clothes Change Clothes, Parent Contact, Ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities Each subsequent violation will result in student being required to change and serve ISS/ ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities.
- 4) Acts of defiance and argumentative behavior could result in more severe consequences, including OSS.

#### To help promote the in-person academic and social engagement of our students while at school and at school-related activities, the District has established the following expectations regarding the use of WCDs by students:

#### WHEN ARE WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES PROHIBITED?

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. The use of any WCD in classrooms for non-educational related communications or purposes is prohibited. Using a WCD to capture or record/transmit pictures of others without their consent is prohibited. Using a WCD in locker rooms, shower facilities, or restrooms is prohibited. Using a WCD to capture or record/transmit/receive test information constituting fraud, theft, or academic dishonesty is prohibited.

#### WHEN CAN I USE A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICE?

Students who bring WCDs to school must ensure that they remain on silent mode and completely out of view for the whole of the school day including passing except for the student's lunch period or as expressly authorized by the classroom teacher for a specific instructional activity. These expectations also apply to extracurricular and co-curricular activities that occur before or after the school day.

#### CAN A STAFF MEMBER CONFISCATE MY WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICE?

Yes. Refusing to hand over your WCD is defiance of authority. You will automatically receive a Discipline Referral and may result in OSS.

#### WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE USE OF A WCD?

- Confiscation, student pick-up at the end of the period
- 23 Confiscation, student pick-up at the end of the day
- Confiscation, parent/guardian pick-up

4) Confiscation, parent/guardian pick up, 5 uays Context Confiscation, parent/guardian pick up, Discipline Referral Confiscation, parent/guardian pick up, Discipline Referral \*Note: Administration may create a check in, check out and/or WCD student behavior agreement that will limit/ \*Note: Administration may create a check in, check out and/or WCD student behavior agreement that will limit/





## PBIS is a Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports

system that recognizes student behaviors identified as those leading to student success. Creating a school-wide PBIS system fosters a positive learning environment for all students and staff.

ROYAL KNIGHTS ALWAYS DISPLAY THE KNIGHTLY VALUES



### **ROYAL KNIGHTS LEARN TO EARN BY MAKING POSITIVE CHOICES!**



River Ridge Middle School students can earn Knight Dollars (school currency) by meeting posted expectations in the classroom, in the cafeteria, in the commons are, the media center, and on the bus. Knight Dollars can be awarded by any staff member!

WHAT CAN I DO WITH	The RRMS school store is called the Royal Merchant Store and is open once a week in the cafeteria during each lunch period. Students use Knight Dollars for snacks, school supplies, school spirit gear, prizes, and special privileges.			
KNIGHT DOLLARS?	Students can ask their teachers about their classroom incentive store, and what the process is to make a purchase directly from a teacher.			
THERE'S AN APP	Download the PBIS Rewards App for Students to keep track of your Knight Dollars! No device? No problem. Log in the website to track your Knight Dollars! <u>https://</u> www.pbisrewards.com/			
FOR THAT!	Parents can download the PBIS Rewards App for Parents to stay up-to-date on your child's positive behaviors!			
PBIS	https://student.pbisrewards.com/login.php https://www.pbisrewards.com/about/parent-support-video/			

# RIVER RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL ROYAL RESPECTFUL - RESPONSIBLE -PROBLEM SOLVERS



## <u>Wh</u>at are Royal Rewards?



Royal Knights can earn Royal Rewards by being RESPECTFUL, by being RESPONSIBLE, PROBLEM SOLVERS! Students and Staff's actions school-wide will foster a positive and safe learning environment.

## **Knight Dollars in PBIS Rewards**



River Ridge Middle School students can earn Knight Dollars (school currency) by meeting posted expectations in the classroom, in the cafeteria, in the commons area, the media center, and on the bus. Knight Dollars can be awarded in PBIS Rewards by any staff member! They can be used during lunches to...

### **Royal Merchant School Store**

## "On Track" Events

Students who are "On Track" each quarter with Cs or above and no referrals can earn "On Track" status to participate in Royal Rewards events. Students will receive an "On Track" Royal Scholar band for each quarter of eligibility.



VIP Knight Events – Field Day – Talent Show – Surprise "On Track" Treats

## **Royal Recognition**



- Good Knight Shield of Honor Do the Right Thing DAILY and earn a positive referral from staff!
- Student of the Month Celebration
- Royal Staff Shout Outs Online from Students & Royal Families
- Teacher and SRP of the Month Student Voice
- Honor Roll/All As Quarterly "Smart Cookies"

Royal Knights learn to earn by making positive choices! July 2023

NOTE: There is a change in the bell schedule this upcoming year. We will be on a rotating bell schedule with different time increments for each period per day. One period per day will be longer to provide for intervention time weekly.



### IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

Mrs. Angie Murphy, Principal <u>amurphy@pasco.k12.fl.us</u> 774-7208

Ms. Daniell Grubbs, Assistant Principal (8th Grade) dgrubbs@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7256

Mr. Kevin Kolean, Assistant Principal (7th Grade) kkolean@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7234

Ms. Kristen Martanovic, Assistant Principal (6th Grade) kmartano@pasco.k21.fl.us 774-7238

Mrs. Krystal Sumrall, Administrative Intern ksumrall@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7235

Corporal Josh Peters, SRO jopeters@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7223

Mrs. Monica Stanton, School Counselor (6th Grade) mostanto@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7252

Mrs. Denise Doerrfeld, School Counselor (7th Grade) ddoerrfe@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7253

Ms. Meredith Alston, School Counselor (8th Grade) malston@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7220

Mrs. April Addington, SSAP aaddingt@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7069

TBD, School Social Worker 774-7259

Ms. Leah Janssen, School Nurse; Ms. Joanie Noe, Clinic Asst. Ijanssen@pasco.k12.fl.us, jnoe@pasco.k12.fl.us 774-7213

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

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

### EARLY RELEASE DAYS

During the 2023-24 school year, Pasco County Schools will continue implementing a monthly, two-hour early release schedule. Early Release days will be on the following days: 9/6, 10/4, 11/1, 12/6, 1/10, 2/14, 3/13, 4/10. There will be no early release days in May. We will also run Enrichment Activity Schedule on these days. Students will select an area of interest for each semester to attend during this time. Early Release Days allow staff to engage in professional development aligned to student needs and district and school priorities. We are confident that this additional learning time for teachers will increase effective instruction and student achievement. Another benefit is that teachers will not have to complete professional development during student class time, decreasing the requirement for substitutes. Bus transportation will be provided two hours earlier than usual for students transported on regular school days. The same routes and stops will be used. School will be released at 11:30AM each early release day, and there will be no practice or after-school activities on these dates.

## IMPORTANT RRMS DATES

\*\*Dates & events are subject to change Storm the Castle for 6th & New RRMS Students - July 27 Returning 7th & 8th Grader Open House Day - August 4 First Day of School for Students - August 10 State Progress Monitoring 1 - August 14 - Sept 1 Student Town Hall Meetings - August 15-17 Happy New Year School Dance - August 25 6PM-8PM School Pictures - August 29 (through ELA) PTSA Family Bingo Night - August 29 6PM Student of the Month - Sept 1 Labor Day - No School - Sept 4 Early Release - Sept 6 (Enrichment Day) Quarter 1 Progress Reports - September 8 Step It Up Fall Fundraiser - September 13-September 30 Start with Hello Week - September 18-22 New Student Social - September 19 6th Grade Math Night - September 21 6PM School Picture Make Up - September 26 Student of the Month - Sept 29 Early Release - October 4 Homecoming Fall Spirit Week - October 2-6

IMPORTANT RRMS DATES \*\*Dates & events are subject to change RRMS Skate Night @ Spin Nations - October 5 (TBD) Fall Pep Rally - PM Activity - October 6 Day of Awesome - October 10 Last Day of Quarter 1 - October 13 Teacher Planning Day - No School - October 16 Red Ribbon Week - October 23-27 Quarter 1 On Track Bands/Royal Rewards - October 24 Quarter 1 Report Cards - October 24 Halloween Dance - October 27 2:00PM - 4:00PM Student of the Month-October 27 Early Release - November 1 Student Data Chats- November 7-16 Quarter 2 Progress Reports - November 10 Thanksgiving Break - November 20-November 24 State Progress Monitoring 2 - December 4 - January 27 Student of the Month - December 1 Physical Science Busch Gardens Physics Day Field Trip - December 1 Winter Dance Showcase - December 3 Early Release - December 6 NASA Field Trip (8th Gr. Science, ACC. 7 Science) - December 8 Winter Concert & Art/Design Showcase - December 14 Winter Dance Showcase- December 16 Winter Spirit Week - December 18-22 District Finals Window - December 18-22 Dodgathon – December 20 Student of the Month - December 21 Quarter 2 Ends - December 22 Winter Break - December 24 - January 8 Teacher Planning Day - No School - January 8 Early Release - January 10 MLK Jr. Day - No School - January 15 Quarter 2 Report Cards - January 16 On Track Royal Reward Quarter 2 - January 16 PTSA Strawberry Fundraiser - January 16-February 2 Winter Dance - January 19 6PM-8PM Celebrate Literacy Week - January 22-January 26 Winter Pep Rally-January 26 Student of the Month - January 30 Quarter 3 Progress Reports - February 9 Talent Show - February 9 Kindness Week-February 12-16 Early Release - February 14 Middle School Preview Night for 24-25 – February 15 President's Day - No School - February 19 FAME Showcase - February 23 6PM Student of the Month - March 1 Quarter 3 Ends - March 7 Teacher Planning Day-March 8 Early Release - March 13 Quarter 3 Report Cards/Royal Rewards - March 15 Spring Musical - March 15-16 Spring Spirit Week-March 18-22 Spring Pep Rally – PM Schedule-March 20 Student of the Month - March 22 PTSA Color Run- March 22 Spring Break - March 25-29 FAST Writing-April 1-5 Early Release - April 10 Spring Dance - April 12 2PM-4PM NJHS Inductions - April 17 Quarter 4 Progress Reports - April 19 5th Grade Prep Rally/Campus Tours - April 19 Spring Student Data Chats - April 22-25 Take Your Child to Work Day - April 25 Student of the Month - April 25 No School for Students & Staff - April 26 Staff Appreciation Week - April 29 - May 3 Gradventure @ Universal - May 3 State Progress Monitoring 3 - May 1 - May 25 Algebra 1, Geometry, Civics EOCs Windows - May 1-May 25 NGSSS Science Grade 8 Window - May TBD Yearbook Signing Party - May TBD 8th Grade Dance - May 10 6PM-9PM End of Year Dance Showcase - May 11 District Finals Window - May 13-24 8th Grade Night of Excellence Awards Ceremony - May 13 6PM Spring Concert - May 14 6PM RRMS Athletics Recognition Ceremony – May 16 6PM 8th Grade Promotion Practice/8th Grade Video - May 20 7:30AM-11:30AM 8th Grade Picnic - May 20 11:30AM-1:30PM 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony - May 21 8:30AM RRMS/HS Stadium Celebration of Excellence - 6th & 7th Grade Awards Ceremony - May 24 7th Grade Crowning Breakfast - May 25 Last Day of School - May 25

Teacher Planning – May 30-May 31



School Supply List

#### **BLL STUDENTS:**

These items will be used in all classes in 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade.

- Colored pencils #2 pencils
- Highlighters Blue or Black Pens Red Pens
- Glue sticks Ruler
  - Scissors
- Loose leaf paper Dry Erase Markers

#### 6th ORADE

#### Language Arts

- 2 Composition notebooks
- 2 Folder with pockets and prongs

#### Math

- 1 in binder
- Folder
- Calculator with basic functions

#### Science

- 1 inch binder .
- Tissues .
- Clorax wipes
- Accelerated: Composition notebook, pocket folder with prongs

#### **Social Studies: US History**

Folder

#### **Research/Reading:**

- 4 folders with pockets & prongs
- Composition notebook
- Sticky notes
- 1 package of index cards

#### **Health:**

- Spiral notebook
- 1 in 3 ringed binder

#### ELECTIVES

- Spanish 1 & 2:
  - 3 Subject Notebook
  - Optional items: tissues, paper towels
  - Spanish Workbook \$20 (purchase from RRMS)

- Personal Hand Sanitizer (Travel Size)
- Personal Water Bottle
- Earbuds that plug into a computer (not wireless) .
- Personal Calculator 6th Grade (one with basic functions) & 7th & 8th Grade (TI ٠
- 30xa) An online or paper calendar/planner (6<sup>th</sup> grade will receive a complimentary school
- planner) Bring your own device (IPad, tablet, laptop) - may only be used with permission of . the teacher or at lunch

### 7ª GRADE

#### Language Arts

- 1" Binder
- Dividers (Pack of 5)
- 2 3-prong folder
- 1 1-subject spiral notebook
- 1 pkg. 3x5 Index cards
- 3-5 pads of post-it notes

#### Math

- 1 folder
- 2 composition books
- 1 pack of graph paper .
- Calculator- Texas Instruments TI-30Xa

#### Science

- 1 (1 ½ or 2 inches) 3-ringed binder •
- Tab Divider Pages (for 3-ringed binder)
- 1 Homework Folder
- Hole Reinforcement Stickers for hole-punched papers
- Accelerated: Composition notebook, pocket folder with prongs

#### **Social Studies: Civics**

- 1-inch binder
- Ream of copy paper in lieu of notebook paper

#### 8th GRADE

#### Language Arts

- 2 three-pronged pocket folders .
- 1 pack of sticky notes
- 1 composition notebook .

#### 8th Grade/Algebra 1/Geometry:

- . 1 in or 2 in binder
- Composition notebook
- 1 Ream of Copy Paper -
- Scientific Calculator TI-30Xa (cell phone may not be used)
- . Graph paper and compass (Geometry only)

#### Science

- Composition notebook
- 3-pronged plastic folder
- Dividers
- Roll of paper Towels OR Box of Tissues
- Physical Science Honors: Composition notebook, pocket folder with prongs

#### Social Studies: World History

- 1" binder .
- 1-3 prong/2 pocket folders

#### HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR ALL STUDENTS:

#### Optional supplies that are appreciated by ALL teachers for the classroom:

- Ream of Copy Paper
- Dry Erase Markers for daily use
- Clorox wipes
- Baby wipes
- Hand Sanitizer
- Paper Towels
- Box of tissues

#### Please Note:

- RRMS does not have lockers so students will need to have a backpack to carry supplies.
- Families may purchase complete school supply kits through School Toolbox at <u>www.schooltoolbox.com</u> and it will be shipped directly to your home.
- Additional supplies may be required by your child's team of teachers.



**River Ridge Middle School** 



## **FUNDRAISER OPT OUT**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO AVOID ...

BEING HASSLED WITH CATALOGS?
ASKING FAMILY & FRIENDS TO BUY?
OVERPRICED ITEMS?
RECEIVING THE WRONG ITEM?
CHEAP REWARDS FOR SELLING THE MOST?

## ACT NOW.

Avoid all this inconvenience. For a \$30 donation, you can opt out of the River Ridge Middle School Fundraiser. Fill out the form below and pay with your school fees during Registration Day and/or return it to the school. Your money will directly impact our student and staff incentive programs and technology. Your child will receive a River Ridge Middle School T-shirt. Your family can choose if they like from here forward to disregard all fundraiser communications and know that you have already done your part to help the school! No Catalogs! No Order Forms!

Please fill out the form below and submit it when paying school fees, return it to school with cash, a check payable to River Ridge Middle School, or through the online credit card system.

Student Name:	
Parent/Guardian Name(s):	
T-Shirt Size (Circle): Youth(Y)/Adult(A) S	M L XL XXL
Have multiple students? Additional students?	ent opt-out (\$15 each):
Student Name:	Size: YS/AS YM/AM YL/AL XL XXL
Student Name:	Size: YS/AS YM/AM YL/AL XL XXL
Total Amount Enclosed: \$ cash	checkcc

\*Certain clubs, organizations, or programs your child belongs to may still choose to hold a fundraiser to benefit their cause or other activities at school (ex. Band, FBLA, sports teams, PTSA, etc.). This opt-out only applies to RRMS School-wide Fundraisers.

#### HEALTHY STUDENT PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM 2023-2024

#### Dear Parent:

Your child is eligible for enrollment in the **Healthy Student Program**, available only at *selected schools* (*only administered by clinic assistant or school nurse*) in the district where there are extended nursing services. **Healthy Student Program** services are offered at no direct cost to you and all students are eligible, regardless of insurance.

The main purpose of the **Healthy Student Program** is to **improve school attendance** and to **reduce health problems** that occur during the school day. A student may be withdrawn from the **Healthy Student Program** at any time by the parent or the school health services staff with written notice.

The Healthy Student program is the commitment of the Pasco County School District and is intended as an effort to help students remain in school, ready to learn. Services available to students enrolled in the **Healthy Student Program** may include:

- Management of acute illness or injury and the administration of limited medications, following physician guidelines and protocols (i.e. ibuprofen, Tylenol, Motrin, Robitussin, Tums, and antifungal ointment, Benadryl, hydrocortisone, etc.).
- Observation and follow up re: communicable diseases (i.e. pink eye, ringworm, etc.).
- A health professional will communicate with you about your child's particular health findings that may require an evaluation, follow up or referral.
- Physical Examinations (ARNP services) for school entry, sports, etc. may be available at limited school sites.
- Lab screenings (hematocrit/hemoglobin, anemia, blood glucose, urinalysis, and pregnancy testing) may be available at limited school sites.

Please inform the school nurse of any newly diagnosed health conditions for your child or changes in health status during the school year.

## The primary goal of school health services is to support academic success by maintaining the physical and mental wellbeing of your child.

#### TO ENROLL YOUR CHILD IN THE HEALTHY STUDENT PROGRAM:

- · Please complete the application for Healthy Student Program Membership
- · Be sure to complete "Student Medical History" section
- · Parent signature is required below the "Enrollment Statement"
- · Return completed form to the school clinic assistant or school nurse

All medical information remains confidential between you and the health services provider. Records are stored and maintained within the Health Office and are shared with no one as per HIPAA compliance. The Medical Director of the Pasco County Health Department provides oversight for this program.

#### July 2023

#### APPLICATION FOR HEALTHY STUDENT PROGRAM MEMBERSHIP 2023-2024

	(Last, First, MI)	Sex	Grade	DOB	
Student #	Home Address				
	ACTED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:	in the second second	97 - 30 		
Parent Name	Place of Business	Bus	Business Phone		
Backup Person to be Called		Hon	ne Phone #	Cell Phone #	
	STUDENT MEDICAL H	STORY			
List any ALLERGIES to	Medications or Food:	- 19 - 18 - 18 - 18 - 18 - 18 - 18 - 18			
List any SURGERY/HO	SPITALIZATION:				
List any CURRENT MEI	DICATIONS:				
	DICATIONS:				
List any MEDICAL / HE					
List any MEDICAL / HE	ALTH PROBLEMS:	h family memb	ers have or h	ave had the condition	
List any MEDICAL / HE	ALTH PROBLEMS:	th family memb	ers have or h	ave had the condition	
List any MEDICAL / HE FAMILY MEDICAL HIST High Blood Pressure _ Epilepsy	ALTH PROBLEMS:	h family memb	ers have or h Diabetes Cancer	ave had the condition	
List any MEDICAL / HE FAMILY MEDICAL HIST High Blood Pressure _ Epilepsy Heart Problems	ALTH PROBLEMS: TORY: (Circle all that apply and indicate whic Tuberculosis Sickle Cell	th family memb	ers have or h _ Diabetes _ Cancer _ _ Arthritis	ave had the condition	
List any MEDICAL / HE FAMILY MEDICAL HIST High Blood Pressure _ Epilepsy Heart Problems Name of Family Physic	ALTH PROBLEMS: FORY: (Circle all that apply and indicate which Tuberculosis Sickle Cell Asthma	ch family memb	ers have or h _ Diabetes _ Cancer _ _ Arthritis Phone	ave had the condition	

#### ENROLLMENT STATEMENT

We agree to enroll \_\_\_\_\_\_ in the Healthy Student Program. We understand that the program offers a limited range of HEALTH COUNSELING services on an as-needed basis. We further understand that these services DO NOT REPLACE the services of our family doctor. In case of accident or serious illness, the school policies outlined on the School's Emergency Information Card will be observed. We further understand that student information is confidential except in those instances when professionals are required by law to report child abuse, death threats, suicide risk, and public health concerns.

## **PAY FEES & PURCHASE SPIRIT ITEMS ONLINE!**

To use Student Fees – Acorn/Rycor to make payments for your child(ren), you must first have an account set up in myStudent. If you do not have an account in myStudent, go to PascoSchools.org, go to the Parents Tab, and select Check Grades/Attendance or Pay Fees. Once your account is established in myStudent, you will have an account ready the following day to be activated in Student Fees - Acorn/Rycor. To activate your Parent Portal Account:

- 1. Go to https://www.studentquickpay.com/pasco/
- Select "Activate Account" 2.
- 3. Enter the email address associated with your myStudent account and select Send Email
- This will generate an email to you to activate your account 4.
- Go to your email and select the link 5.
- 6. Continue by creating your password and activating your account
- 7. Once this is completed, you will be able to see Fees and Other Items that can be purchased

## 23-24 MIDDLE SCHOOL FEES

Pasco County School Board Approved

General Fee	\$15
Art Fee	\$15
Band Program Fee	\$15
Chorus Program Fee	\$15
Career Technical Course Fees (per year)	\$10
Dance Fee	\$15
Instrument Tech & Instrument Ensemble	\$15
Physical Education Fee	\$5
Science Fees (per year)	\$10
Student Technology Service Fee	\$2
Theatre Fee	\$15
Spanish Workbook	\$20



w t-shirts and RRMS Spirit items are available to purchase ONLINE before attending Storm  $\circ$ July 27th and Meet the Teacher-Open House on August 4th. We do accept credit cards through the Rycor accounts. Pick up items at the event or in the front office the first few weeks of school. Get yours today! Sizes range from YM-Adult 2XL.

Short sleeve t-shirts \$15 Long sleeve t-shirts \$20

Hoodie Sweatshirts \$30 Plastic Sling Packs (Athletic Events) \$10 - Sling Packs \$5- Lanyards \$8 - Water Bottles \$8

Order online and pay through Rycor by accessing the Parent Portal Account: https://www.studentquickpay.com/pasco/

#### EVERY FRIDAY IS ROYAL SPIRIT FRIDAY - WEAR YOUR RIVER RIDGE SWAG!

