



RIVER RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

11646 Town Center Road • Voice: (727) 774-7000, (813) 794-7000, (352) 524-7000
New Port Richey, Florida 34654 • Fax: (727) 774-7290 • <http://rrms.pasco.k12.fl.us>

Melina Brissey, Assistant Principal

Angie Murphy, Principal
Daniell Grubbs, Assistant Principal

Kristen Martanovic, Assistant Principal

April 7, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardians:

It's hard to believe that the 2024-25 school year is coming to a close and in a short time your 8th grader will soon be transitioning to high school. The final months of 8th grade will be filled with many exciting milestones and memorable events. We wanted to take a moment to share important information and an outline of the 8th Grade End of Year Activities.

Any 8th grade student who does not pass their current courses with a D or higher 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. Student behavior and disciplinary action will also be taken into consideration. All final decisions on academic and behavioral eligibility for end of year activities will be determined by administration and will be based on students meeting promotion guidelines.

May 1st: 8th Grade Video Submissions

It's time to find those incredibly cute baby pictures for our 8th grade video! Please email ONE baby picture and ONE current individual picture. All pictures need to be sent electronically to Mrs. Baumaister at cbaumais@pasco.k12.fl.us with the subject line: 8th Grade Baby Picture – Student Name. Deadline for photo submission is May 1st.

End of Year Testing for 8th Graders

The state and district end of year testing is extremely important to measure the progress of your student's learning and future course placement. It is critical that ALL students attend school especially during the testing periods as make up windows are extremely limited. All assessments begin at 7:10AM are computer-based unless noted.

May 8: Civics EOC (any 8th grader who is currently in the course)

May 12: BEST Algebra 1 & BEST Geometry

May 13: NGSSS Science 8/Physical Science Honors District Final

May 14: ELA Reading FAST

May 15: Math 8 FAST

May 16: District Finals: World History (AM)

May 16: District Finals: Spanish 1 & 2 (PM)

May 21-23: District Finals: Digital Design, Robotics, Art, Dance, Band, Chorus, Intro to A/V Arts

District Finals are worth 10% of the final grade.

May 9th: Gradventure

The deadline for Gradventure tickets has passed. There will be an expectations session for all students attending Gradventure after lunch in the gym on May 7th. Students should be in Pasco County and Universal Studio's Gradventure dress code by wearing your 8th grade t-shirt and appropriate length shorts or pants with no holes or shredding. The dress code is included in this letter. Students may bring an 8x10 string bag but no backpacks. On Friday, May 9th, buses will be leaving from the bus loop at 1:45PM and will return to River Ridge at 2:00AM. Upon arrival back to school, students must be released to a parent or guardian only at that time.

8th Grade T-shirt Orders

T-shirts are included with the purchase of a Gradventure ticket. If your student is not attending Gradventure but wants to purchase an 8th Grade t-shirt to wear at the picnic, you may order one for \$15 by May 1st in the front office or online through GoFan.co.

Get Your Yearbook NOW & Yearbook Signing Celebration

Yearbook Pre-Sale online only for \$35 through April 30th at www.yearbookforever.com. Yearbook Sales will continue in May but will be limited for \$40. Students who purchase a yearbook may attend the Yearbook Signing Celebration in the courtyard. Date to be determined. Ice cream treats will be provided.

May 13th: 8th Grade Celebration of Excellence Awards Night

The Celebration of Excellence Awards Night is by invitation and will begin at 6PM in the River Ridge Center for the Arts with light refreshments to follow. Students who earned all As and Bs for the first semester and third quarter will be recognized at this ceremony. There will also be Student of the Year content area and elective awards. Invitations will be provided to invited student the first week of May.

May 16th: 8th Grade Dance

Students who purchase tickets as a part of the \$40 end of year activities fee are invited to attend the 8th Grade Dance from 6PM-9PM at the Kontos Center at St. George Greek Orthodox Church. All students attending must complete the two field trip permission forms and turn the forms into your ELA teacher or the front office no later than May 15th. Complimentary food will also be served such as pizza, chips, chicken tenders, cupcakes, and an ice cream bar. Free photo booth pictures are also included in the price of the ticket.

Dress code for the dance is semi-formal attire and students are expected to follow the Pasco County Schools dress code and Student Code of Conduct. This would include dress pants (no jeans), dress shirt with tie or collared shirt, a dress or skirt of the appropriate length not shorter than the mid-thigh, or blouse and dress pants is acceptable. Jeans, shorts, shirts without a collar or flip flops will not be permitted. Shoes must be worn at all times.

May 23rd: Kings & Queens of the Castle 8th Grade Picnic & Video Viewing

On Friday morning, students will meet in the cafeteria for promotion ceremony practice. Following the practice, students will have the opportunity to view the 8th Grade video in the theater at approximately 10AM. From 11:30AM-1:30PM, students will be able to participate in games, Big Kahuna waterslide, obstacle course, wrecking ball and a picnic meal (hot dogs, chips, cookies, and drinks) if they pay the participation fee of \$40. We are looking for parent volunteers and businesses to donate food items and prizes for drawings throughout the picnic. Please contact Mrs. Pruneau in the front office at 774-7208 or at apruneau@pasco.k12.fl.us. Parents must be an approved volunteer.

May 27th: 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony

To celebrate your student's promotion to high school, we invite family and friends to attend our 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony on Tuesday, May 27 at 8:30AM at the River Ridge MS/HS Stadium. Students will complete their "Last Walk" through RRMS campus and out to the stadium for a ceremony to celebrate our 8th graders. After the ceremony, parents/guardians may sign their children out to go home. Please indicate your preference on the attached permission form.

There will be a \$40 8th Grade End of Year Activities participation fee, which will include admission to the 8th Grade Picnic and Dance. Payment can be made to the front office or online through GoFan.co. Students will need a signed parent permission form to participate in the picnic. Please see the attached form.

Thank you for the opportunity you have given River Ridge Middle School staff to work with and teach your children. We look forward to finishing the year strong. ***In order for your student to participate in the 8th grade activities, please sign, provide payment and return the permission forms (dance, picnic, and early dismissal from promotion ceremony) to the front office no later than Tuesday, May 20th.***

Sincerely,



Angie Murphy, Principal

Melina Brissey, Assistant Principal



Denise Doerrfeld, 8th Grade School Counselor



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY
District and/or School Sponsored
Events/Activities
Parent Permission Form

Pursuant to 1001.02(1), (2)(n), F.S., Pasco County Schools strives to protect the safety and welfare of all students and the fundamental rights of parents regarding school and/or district sponsored events and activities.

District/School-sponsored refers to any event or activity created for students to study or participate in while in the custody of the school district, including field trips, extracurricular activities or other supplemental programs and activities as defined in Rule 6A-10.085, F.A.C.

Name of the event or activity: PKMS 7th grade Dance

Activity Description:

7th grade end-of-year semi-formal

Date of event or activity: Friday, May 16th 2025

Time of event or activity: 6PM-9PM

Location: Kentos Center St. George Greek Orthodox Church
9426 Little Rd. NPK, FL 34654

Types of sponsors and or guests: 250

Anticipated Number of Chaperones: 25

By signing and returning this form to my child's school, I formally state that I grant permission to the District School Board of Pasco County to allow participation in the above-described event or activity.

Last Name of Student _____ First Name _____

Student # _____ Grade _____ School _____

I understand fully the conditions set forth in this document.

Name of Parent or Guardian (Please Print) _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

Date _____ Contact Phone Number _____

For District/School Use Only

DISTRIBUTION: Original - School or Department Data Entry: Copy - Individual Copy - Individual



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Name of the event or activity: *8th grade end-of-year picnic*

Activity Description:

End-of-year picnic + field day

Date of event or activity: *Friday, May 23rd 2025*

Time of event or activity: *11:30AM - 1:30PM*

Location: *MS Fields*

Types of sponsors and or guests: *300*

Anticipated Number of Chaperones: *25*

By signing and returning this form to my child's school, I formally state that I grant permission to the District School Board of Pasco County to allow participation in the above-described event or activity.

Last Name of Student _____ First Name _____

Student # _____ Grade _____ School _____

I understand fully the conditions set forth in this document.

Name of Parent or Guardian (Please Print) _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

Date _____ Contact Phone Number _____

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RRMS 8th Grade Early Dismissal on Tuesday, May 27, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are excited to celebrate your child's promotion to high school with you at our promotion ceremony on 5/27 at 8:30AM. In order to expedite a safe and secure check out process for all students, we are implementing a pre-checkout authorization procedure. Students who have a completed form on file **prior to the end of the day on Tuesday, May 20th** will be issued a wristband for easy identification on the morning of the promotion. At the conclusion of the promotion, all students wearing a wristband will be permitted to leave as planned. All other students will return to class.

If you would like to check out your child early on Tuesday, May 27th at the end of the promotion, please complete this form and turn it into the front office by the end of the school day on Tuesday, May 20th.

Circle your child's Language Arts teacher's name:

Addington Ely Morton Daba

I, _____ (print parent's name), give _____ (print child's name)

permission to check out early on Tuesday, May 27th at the conclusion of the promotion ceremony.

- I give permission for my child to leave RRMS with _____.
- I will take my child with me at the conclusion of the promotion ceremony.
- My child has my permission to walk home or ride his/her bike at the conclusion of the promotion ceremony.

Parent Signature _____

Student's Name _____ Student ID# _____



Dress Code

All schools should conduct their own security and dress code screening prior to departing for Gradventure.

OK

GIRLS

- Dresses, skirts, capris or shorts
- Casual pants (including jeans)
- Casual blouses and tops with sleeves
- Comfortable shoes (including tennis shoes, dress sandals, boots and flip-flops)
- Hats
- Purses under the size of 8.5" x 11", fanny packs, and drawstring backpacks

GUYS

- Casual pants or shorts (including khakis and jeans)
- Shirts with sleeves (polos, dress and t-shirts)
- Comfortable shoes (including tennis shoes, boots and flip-flops)
- Hats
- Drawstring backpacks

CHAPERONES

- Large backpacks

NOT OK

UNACCEPTABLE ATTIRE

- Clothing with holes or shredding
- Clothing with obscene, offensive language or graphics
- Visible undergarments
- Tank tops or undershirts
- Clothing that exposes excessive portions of the skin that may be viewed as inappropriate at a school function (e.g., bikini tops and bottoms)
- Short shorts
- Area codes displayed on clothing
- Accessories such as chains, spiked collars or studded/spiked belts
- Bandanas
- Selfie sticks

STUDENTS

- Large backpacks

IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT STUDENTS WEAR MATCHING, BRIGHTLY COLORED SHIRTS WITH THEIR SCHOOL CLEARLY IDENTIFIED ON THEM.

***Universal Orlando reserves the right to refuse entry into the event or require the purchase of appropriate clothing for non-compliance with the dress code.**

..... UNIVERSALORLANDOYOUTH.COM/GRADVENTURE

Don't miss out on the End of Year Royal 8th Grade Activities!

There will be a \$40 8th Grade End of Year Activities participation fee, which will include admission to the 8th Grade Picnic and Dance. Payment can be made to the front office, Ms. Cione, Bookkeeper, or online through GoFan.co. Students will need a signed parent permission form to attend the dance, picnic, and to be released early from school after the Promotion Ceremony. Tickets for the 8th Grade Dance and Picnic will not be available on the day of the event.

River Ridge Middle School presents

Light Up THE KNIGHT

8th Grade Semi-Formal Dance
Friday, May 16th from 6PM-9PM
St. George Greek Orthodox Church
Kontos Event Center

\$40 8th Grade EOY Activity Fee on GoFan.co
&
Signed Permission Form

Food is included in the price of the ticket.



**Students must be on track for promotion to high school and not have any Level 2 or 3 referrals during semester 2 to attend.

ROYAL KNIGHTS 8TH GRADE DANCE

Modest Dresses

- Dresses may **NOT** be revealing on the front, side or back of dress.
- Dresses may be strapless and / or spaghetti straps but **MUST** have full coverage.
- Dress length should **NOT** be shorter than mid-thigh.

NO Hats

Collared Shirt

Ties

NO jeans.

NO shorts.

NO t-shirts.

Dress Slacks

Shoes **MUST** be worn at **ALL** times



RRMS DRESS CODE

Questions about your outfit? See an administrator during school for clarification.

RIVER RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL 8TH GRADE PICNIC MAY 23, 2025 11:30AM-1:30PM



**Students must be on track for promotion to high school and not have any Level 2 or 3 referrals during semester 2 to attend.

ROYAL KNIGHTS RRMS

THE AMAZING 8TH GRADE CLASS OF
RIVER RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2029

Promotion Celebration

TUESDAY, MAY 27TH 8:30AM
RIVER RIDGE STADIUM

WE INVITE FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO ATTEND OUR
8TH GRADE PROMOTION CEREMONY.
DOORS OPEN AT 8AM.
STUDENTS MEET BY 7:10AM IN CAFETERIA.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, PARENTS/GUARDIANS MAY
SIGN THEIR CHILDREN OUT TO GO HOME.