

# WELCOME TO THE ROYAL FAMILY!

## CLASS OF 2033 UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CASTLE:

- 1.** Student & Family view the RRMS Course Offerings & Advanced Courses of Study & Elective Programs flyers received at elementary school. These can also be found on the school website!
- 2.** Future Knight & Family attend 26-27 Curriculum Night - Inside the Castle: Exploring Your Future at RRMS at River Ridge Middle School. This very important night begins at **6PM** on **Wednesday, 2/11/26** in the Center for the Arts at River Ridge Theatre!
- 3.** Visit the Castle with your classmates on **Friday, 4/24/26!** This field trip is for **students only** during the school day. The future Knights will go on a campus tour and participate in their very first middle school pep rally!
- 4.** Storm the Castle Student & Family Transition Event is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 7/30/26 at 8AM-12PM. New Knights will pay fees, receive their schedule and swag bag, and meet their teachers!



## CONNECT WITH US!



## SCHOOL VISITS:

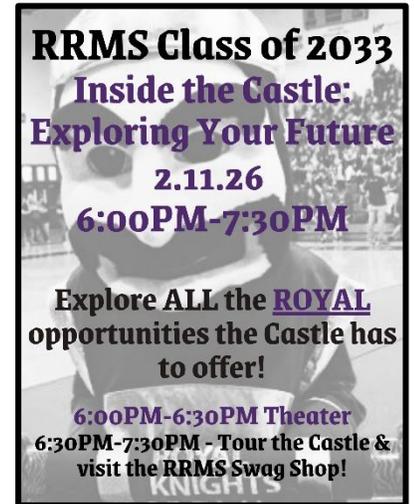
- **2/3-2/5:** Visits to elementary schools by RRMS staff to meet with 5th grade students
- **2/12/26:** Course cards due to 5th Grade Teachers/School Counselor



# Class of 2033 Important Dates & Information

## Course Registration for 2026-2027 School Year

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
2/3-2/5	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade meetings at Feeder Elementary Schools for information session and course card distribution
W 2/11	RRMS Inside the Castle – Exploring Your Future 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum Night 6:00PM-7:30PM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parent/Guardian meeting in theater about course registrations and offerings, and Middle School transition tips</li> <li>- Visit classrooms, explore elective opportunities and programs of study including Gifted Inclusion, ESE Programs, Acceleration Options, Engineering, and FAME Academy</li> <li>- Meet our Royal Family: Administration, Teachers, Student Services, and Support Staff</li> </ul>
TH 2/11	Course Cards due to 5 <sup>th</sup> grade teacher/school counselor
F 4/24	Field Trip to the RRMS Castle – Campus Tour & Prep Rally (students only)
TH 7/30	Storm the Castle – New Student Orientation 8AM-12PM



### GET INVOLVED & BE ENGAGED – JOIN PTSA!!!

CONTACT US: [RiverRidgeMSPTSA@gmail.com](mailto:RiverRidgeMSPTSA@gmail.com)



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 supports the PTSA mission and wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth.

### CONNECT WITH RIVER RIDGE



Angie Murphy, Principal  
[amurphy@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:amurphy@pasco.k12.fl.us)

Gina Thompson, ESE Lead Teacher  
[gthomps@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:gthomps@pasco.k12.fl.us)

Chrissy Brando, Athletic Director  
[cbrando@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:cbrando@pasco.k12.fl.us)

Questions regarding articulation and transition to River Ridge Middle School  
<https://rrms.pasco.k12.fl.us/mform/view.php?id=198748>



# PARENT/GUARDIAN TIPS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL SUCCESS

HOME OF THE ROYAL KNIGHTS



<https://rrms.pasco.k12.fl.us>



@riverridgemiddle



@RRMSRoyalKnight

## **Be Involved**

Your student values your presence and time more than they will say. Attend games, Meet the Teacher, and school events. Our **PTSA** (Parent Teacher Student Association) and **SAC** (School Advisory Council) are always looking for members and support! Register to become a volunteer and join to help chaperone field trips and school events.

## **District Volunteer Application**

<https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/hreq/page/volunteer>

## **Encourage Student Involvement**

Extra-curricular activities such as sports and clubs are an excellent way for students to build life-long bonds with other students, coaches, new interests, hobbies and talents. Encourage your child to try a sport or club. Sports are available to all students grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> that **maintain a 2.0 GPA** or higher. A wide variety of enrichment activities are offered during school once a month on early release days. Additional after school clubs are also available. See our full list of clubs on our website.

## **Time Management**

Use a planner and support your child with checking it daily to stay on top of daily assignments and plan large projects into smaller benchmarks. 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are provided paper planners at the beginning of the school year, however, many find using electronic planners more helpful. Also, teach your child how to use the Reminders and Calendar App on their phones.

# #WeareROYAL!



## **Monitor Progress**

Parents and students should each have their own **myStudent** account to monitor grades and attendance weekly. Teachers provide weekly updates on grades and feedback comments on assessments and assignments. Checking progress regularly is the key to success! There are direct links to email teachers if there are questions or concerns.

Notes and assignments can be linked in the gradebook for review and printing at home.

## **District Parent Page**

<https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/parents>

## **Encourage Self Advocacy**

Self-advocacy is one of the most important skills your student will learn in middle school. Speaking up and knowing how and who to ask for help for what they need is a critical, lifelong skill. Your student can only learn it if you make an intentional effort to back away and let them step up to the plate. When they state they have a question about schoolwork, make sure they follow up with their teacher. If they share a concern about a peer, encourage your student to see a school counselor.

## **Study! Study! Study!**

Encourage good study habits by providing a routine and quiet place for your child to work. Assist your child with setting aside short intervals of study time to review manageable amounts of information to avoid cramming too much, too late.

## **Monitor Social Media**

Check the sites your student is using. Read what they are posting. Block sites, monitor use, and monitor what is being communicated. Make sure you review with your child their obligations as a digital citizen and that their rights come with consequences for improper use. For more information on the District Wireless Communication Device Policy, visit the Student Code of Conduct page at: [www.pasco.k12.fl.us/ssps/page/conduct](https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/ssps/page/conduct)

## **Attendance is Important**

Attendance is SO important in middle school! Every day missed is 50 minutes missed of 6 classes!

Academic success requires continuity of instruction and active classroom participation. If a student needs to be absent from illness or family emergency, or other excused reason provided in the Student Code of Conduct, complete the absence notification via myStudent. Students are responsible for completing make-up work.

## **Set Goals to Grow**

Teach the importance of good grades and passing courses. Discuss achievable goals and help to set benchmarks and timelines for success. Provide praise. Mistakes happen and when they do, use them as learning opportunities with your child to make plans for avoiding similar situations in the future.

# Summer Math Acceleration Program

Jump start your 2026-2027 school year with exciting opportunities online!



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We are partnering with Pasco eSchool and encourage incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders to take advantage of accelerated math options by signing up and completing 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Accelerated Math over the spring and summer. Students who successfully complete the course will be enrolled in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Accelerated Math in August 2026. This pathway will allow students to gain a deeper understanding of math and have more opportunities to earn high school credits in middle school. This option also aligns well with the RRMS Accelerated Science Program. Sign up with Pasco eSchool today at [eschool.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://eschool.pasco.k12.fl.us)!



## Want more electives as a 6<sup>th</sup> Grader?

Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders can sign up to take M/J Health online through Pasco eSchool during the summer or school year to gain a yearlong elective OR two semester electives. Sign up with Pasco eSchool this summer at [eschool.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://eschool.pasco.k12.fl.us) and make sure to indicate this on your RRMS course card.

## Let's STORM THE CASTLE...

**Thursday, July 30, 2026**

**8AM-10AM or 10AM-12PM**

Begin your journey as a Royal Knight by attending this special orientation event.

- Navigating The Castle
- Get your schedule & pay school fees
- RRMS Swag Store
- RRMS T-shirt and sling back bag provided when students pick up their schedule



***Please visit the RRMS website at [rrms.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://rrms.pasco.k12.fl.us) to stay up to date on important information regarding the Class of 2033!***



# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Request Card

River Ridge Middle School ~ 2026-2027 School Year

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Year: 2033  
 Student T-Shirt Size: \_\_\_ Youth M \_\_\_ Youth L \_\_\_ Adult S \_\_\_ Adult M \_\_\_ Adult L \_\_\_ Adult XL \_\_\_ Adult XXL

*The information below is for students and parents/guardians to provide input for student course requests. Students may be enrolled in a supplemental ELA/Math course based on FAST scores.*

<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Required Core Courses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language Arts 1 Advanced (1.0)</li> <li>• ACCEL Math 6 (1.0), or ACCEL Math 7 (1.0)</li> <li>• Comprehensive Science 1 Advanced (1.0) or Science 1 ACC Honors (1.0)</li> <li>• US History Advanced (1.0)</li> <li>• PE<sup>6</sup> (.5)</li> <li>• Health<sup>^</sup> (.5)</li> </ul> <p><b>Yearlong Elective Courses (1.0)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Band 1 (1.0)</li> <li>• Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, &amp; Learning Strategies (1.0)</li> <li>• Chorus 1 (1.0)</li> <li>• Dance 1<sup>6</sup> (1.0)</li> <li>• Musical Theatre 1 (1.0)</li> <li>• Orchestra 1 (1.0)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Semester Elective Courses (.5)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acting 1 (.5)</li> <li>• Basic Theatre (.5)</li> <li>• Career Research &amp; Decision Making (.5)</li> <li>• Engineering 1-Exploration of Technical Design Technology (.5)</li> <li>• Engineering 2-Exploration of Robotics Technology (.5)</li> <li>• Digital Discoveries 6 (.5)</li> <li>• Exploring 2D Art (.5)</li> <li>• Exploring 3D Art (.5)</li> <li>• Exploring Music Performance, Guitar 1 (.5)</li> <li>• Introduction to Arts, A/V Technology &amp; Communication (.5)</li> <li>• Introduction to Cybersecurity (.5)</li> <li>• Introduction to Dance Techniques (.5)</li> <li>• PE – Comprehensive 6/7<sup>6</sup> (.5)</li> <li>• PE – Fitness Grade 6<sup>6</sup> (.5)</li> </ul>	<p><sup>6</sup>All students are required to take 1 Semester (.5) of PE each year. If choosing an elective other than PE, a <b>PE waiver is required to be completed by the parent/guardian on the back of this form.</b> Completing a PE waiver does not guarantee that your student will not have PE.</p> <p><sup>^</sup>All students are required to take 1 Semester of Health in 6<sup>th</sup> Grade. Students who want to take a year-long elective (1.0) OR take 2 semester electives (.5) will need to complete the Health Agreement on the back of this form and complete the course independently online via Pasco eSchool.</p>
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**Choose your requests by checking (√) your selection.**

1<sup>st</sup> Selection: \_\_\_ Language Arts 1 Advanced

2<sup>nd</sup> Selection: \_\_\_ US History Advanced

3<sup>rd</sup> Selection: \_\_\_ Accelerated Math 6  
 (Choose 1√) \_\_\_ Accelerated Math 7 (student must have successfully completed ACCEL Math 6 prior to 26-27 school year)

4<sup>th</sup> Selection: \_\_\_ Comprehensive Science 1 Advanced  
 (Choose 1√) \_\_\_ Comprehensive Science 1 Accelerated Honors (must be enrolled in ACCEL Math 6 or ACCEL Math 7 in 26-27 school year)

5<sup>th</sup> Selection: \_\_\_ Health<sup>^</sup> on campus at RRMS (select Health below as your #1 elective choice below).  
 (Choose 1√) \_\_\_ Health<sup>^</sup> online via Pasco eSchool (**outside** of the regular school day, must enroll via Pasco eschool)

6<sup>th</sup> Selection: Students must choose enough electives to fill **TWO (2.0)** class periods. Write 1 next to your favorite (first) choice. Write 2 next to your second choice. If your favorite (first) choice is a semester choice (.5), you must select another semester course (.5), for your favorite (first) choice. Complete this step for the second choice(s) also – 2 semester classes or 1 yearlong class. **Your choices MUST add up to 2.0.** Then put an X next to **at least two more electives** you'd be willing to take next school year if your first and/or second choices are not available. Students may not get first or second elective choices due to class size and scheduling conflicts. If multiple levels of courses are offered, please circle which level you are requesting. Students may be enrolled in a supplemental ELA/Math course based on FAST scores.

**You must select:**

- ✓ Two full-credit electives (1.0 each), OR
- ✓ One full-credit elective (1.0) AND two half-credit electives (.5 each), OR
- ✓ Four half-credit electives (.5 each).

**Make sure your choices add up to TWO (2.0) class periods of electives.**

___ Acting 1 (.5)	___ Exploring Music Performance, Guitar (.5)	___ Band 1 (1.0)
___ Basic Theatre (.5)	___ Health <sup>^</sup> (.5)	___ Chorus 1 (1.0)
___ Career Research & Decision Making (.5)	___ Introduction to Arts, A/V Tech & Comm (.5)	___ Critical Thinking (1.0)
___ Digital Discoveries 6 (.5)	___ Introduction to Cybersecurity (.5)	___ Dance 1 <sup>6</sup> (1.0)
___ Engineering 1 – Tech Design (.5)	___ Introduction to Dance Techniques <sup>6</sup> (.5)	___ Musical Theatre 1 (1.0)
___ Engineering 2 – Robotics (.5)	___ PE – Comprehensive 6/7 <sup>6</sup> (.5)	___ Orchestra 1 (1.0)
___ Exploring 2D Art (.5)	___ PE – Fitness 6 <sup>6</sup> (.5)	
___ Exploring 3D Art (.5)		

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ID:

**Helpful Resources**

Review the elective course catalog and video descriptions on the RRMS website in the School Info tab. Please take a moment to go to the school district’s parent page which includes the course catalog, parent portal information, and helpful tips for navigating middle school.

**RRMS Website**  
<http://rrms.pasco.k12.fl.us/>

**District Parent Page & Navigating Middle School**  
<https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/parents>

**Middle School Promotion Requirements**

Middle school students are required to successfully complete three years of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. They are also required to complete a career and education planning component, and take the Civics End of Course exam which is 30% of student’s course grade.

**Advanced and Accelerated Course Options**

We believe that with the right supports, each student has the ability to meet high academic standards through challenging course work.

**Schedule Changes**

Schedule changes will not be possible once enrolled due to class-size mandates and end-of-course requirements. Classes are offered based on the choices that students make on their course card. The choices that are made are binding. If students do not choose enough elective courses and/or first-choice electives are full and no other electives are chosen, classes will be chosen for students and schedule change requests will not be honored. Schedule changes will not be made because students decide that they do not want to take a course any longer. Students will be taking the classes that are selected on the course card.

**PE WAIVER STATEMENT**

PE Waiver Requirement: Senate Bill 610 requires the equivalent of one class period per day of Physical Education for one semester each year for students in grades 6-8.

A waiver is required for students for the following criteria:

- ✓ Student is receiving or is recommended to receive remedial support.
- ✓ Parent/Guardian requests another offered course.
- ✓ Parent/Guardian verifies that student participates in equivalent activities outside of the regular school day.

*I have read the PE Waiver Statement and believe that my child meets one of the listed criteria above for exemption and has requested electives other than PE.*

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ONLINE HEALTH AGREEMENT**

**Only complete if your child is taking Health online via Pasco eSchool and NOT on RRMS campus during the 26-27 School Year.**

- ✓ I am requesting my child be enrolled in 2 class periods of electives courses.
- ✓ I agree to have him/her take the health class online through Pasco eSchool when offered.
- ✓ I understand this class will need to be completed **outside** of the regular school day.
- ✓ I understand I must enroll my student in the online course through Pasco eSchool.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name, First Name:



## RIVER RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

### 2026-2027 COURSE OFFERINGS & PROGRAMS OF STUDY

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Core

Language Arts 1 Advanced  
Comprehensive Science 1 Advanced  
Science 1 Accelerated Honors  
U.S. History Advanced  
Accelerated Math 6  
Accelerated Math 7  
Health (.5)

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Core

Language Arts 2 Advanced  
Comprehensive Science 2 Advanced  
Science 2 Accelerated Honors  
Civics Advanced  
Math 7  
Accelerated Math 7  
Algebra 1 Honors\*

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Core

Language Arts 3 Advanced  
Comprehensive Science 3 Advanced  
Physical Science Honors\*  
World History Advanced  
Pre-AP World History & Geography\*  
Math 8 Pre-Algebra  
Algebra 1 Honors\*  
Geometry 1 Honors\*

*Students may be enrolled in a supplemental MATH/ELA course based on FAST scores.*

### ELECTIVE PROGRAMS OF STUDY

**High School Course Credit\* / Application Required# / Additional Fees Required\$**

#### Computer Science

Digital Discoveries 6 (.5)  
Digital Discoveries 7 (.5)  
Digital Discoveries 8 (.5)  
Introduction to Cybersecurity (.5)  
Discovering Computer Science\* (1.0)  
Principles of Computer Science\* (1.0)

#### CTAE

Digital Art Imaging 1\* (1.0)  
Digital Design 1\* (1.0)  
Introduction to A/V Arts (.5)

#### JROTC – Air Force\*

Aerospace Science 1<sup>s</sup> (1.0)

#### New Teacher Academy\*

Introduction into the Teaching Profession (1.0)

#### Peer Mentoring

Peer Counseling 1<sup>#</sup> (1.0)  
Peer Counseling 2<sup>#</sup> (1.0)  
Peers as Partners<sup>#</sup> (1.0)

#### Physical Education

Comprehensive PE 6/7 (.5)  
Comprehensive PE 7/8 (.5)  
Fitness 6 (.5)  
Individual/Dual Sports 8 (.5)  
Team Sports 7 (.5)

#### World Languages\*

Spanish 1 (1.0)  
Spanish 2 (1.0)

#### Engineering & Robotics Academy

Exploration of Technical Design Technology (.5)  
Exploration of Robotics Technology (.5)  
Exploration of Green Construction & Architecture Technology (.5)  
Exploration of Power & Energy Technology (.5)  
Introduction into Engineering\* (1.0)

#### FAME – Fine Arts Music Entertainment Academy\*

##### Arts

2D Studio Art 1 (1.0)  
3D Studio Art 1 (1.0)  
Exploring 2D Art 1 (.5)  
Exploring 3D Art 1 (.5)  
Pre-AP Visual Arts (1.0)  
Tech Theatre: Design & Production (1.0)

##### Dance<sup>\$</sup>

Intro to Dance Techniques (.5)  
Dance 1, 2, & 3 (1.0)

**Visit the Pasco County School's website for course descriptions:**

[https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/course\\_catalog](https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/course_catalog)

#### Yearbook<sup>#</sup>

Journalism 1 (1.0)  
Journalism 2 (1.0)

##### Music<sup>\$</sup>

Band 1, 2, & 3 (1.0)  
Chorus 1, 2, & 3 (1.0)  
Guitar 1 & 2 (1.0)  
Orchestra 1, 2, & 3 (1.0)

##### Theatre<sup>\$</sup>

Acting 1 (.5)  
Basic Theatre (.5)  
Musical Theatre 1, 2, & 3 (1.0)



# RIVER RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

## ADVANCED COURSES OF STUDY & ELECTIVE PROGRAMS

RRMS offers students many diverse experiences to find & pursue their interest areas while exploring their talents in a caring & compassionate learning environment. There are more on-campus opportunities than any other middle school for students to excel by earning high school credits and Digital Tools certification.

### FAME ACADEMY

The Fine Arts Music Entertainment (FAME) Academy at RRMS allows students to have access to comprehensive visual and performing arts coursework including visual and digital arts, dance and choreography, theatre, vocal, instrumental (orchestra, percussion, brass, etc.), and general music. In addition to the diverse curriculum offerings, teachers and students will have the opportunity to utilize the River Ridge Center for the Arts and the Black Box Theatre to provide professional real-world experiences in the fine and performing arts. (Grades 6-8)

### ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS

The rigorous Project Lead the Way Engineering Program at RRMS provides students with hands-on experiences to explore all areas of the engineering field including robotics, manufacturing, green architecture, and energy and the environment. As an 8th grader, students may also take the high school level Introduction to Engineering course to earn an industry certification. Students may also participate in VEX and FIRST Robotics team competitions with high school mentors. (Grades 6-8)

### DIGITAL ARTS & GRAPHIC DESIGN

These are hands-on classes, where students design graphics for print and web, photo editing, photo effects, photography, audio/video, animation, and illustration. Software used are Photoshop, Illustrator, and Premier Rush. Students also explore the use of digital cameras, lighting, and drawing tablets. Students can earn high school credit, industry software certification (in Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator), and Digital Tools certification. (Grades 6-8)



### COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer Science includes programming (block and text) and includes many other concepts such as computational thinking, artificial intelligence, computer systems and networks, security, database systems, human computer interaction, vision and graphics, numerical analysis, programming languages, software engineering, bioinformatics, mixed reality, computer literacy, and computing theory. Students can earn Digital Tools certification. (Grades 6-8)

### TEACHING & EDUCATION

8th grade students who are accepted into the New Teacher Academy at RRMS will enter their first class and learn quickly that clinical experience working with kids, coupled with giving back to the Pasco community, is the catalyst for success within the NTA. Developing future teachers while serving the community provides a powerful platform upon which to build the next generation of Pasco County teachers. Students earn high school credits in this academy. (Grade 8)

### WORLD LANGUAGES

Students may earn on campus high school credit by immersing in our Spanish program. (Grades 7-8)

### ACCELERATED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS STANDARDS BASED, RIGOROUS, & RELEVANT

River Ridge Middle School offers an accelerated academic program in Mathematics & Science (Grades 6-8) and Social Studies (Grade 8) where students are immersed in inquiry based, rigorous, and relevant curriculum leading to multiple high school credits in middle school.

# #WEAREROYAL



# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Courses

River Ridge Middle School ~ 2026-2027 School Year

## Half-Credit Electives (.5) – 1 semester course (August-December or January-May)

**Acting 1:** Through simple scripted scenes, performance projects, and/or practical application, students learn to identify what makes performances believable and explore the tools used to create, articulate, and execute them. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside of the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

**Basic Theatre:** Students learn the basics of theatre arts by exploring a character through such activities as pantomime, improvisation and effective speaking using articulation, projection and breathing. Students also explore elements of technical theatre by exploring the use of such elements as costumes, props and scenery. Students practice writing for the theatre and explore various theatre roles and functions. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside of the school day to support, extend and assess learning in the classroom. Please note that additional fees may apply for certain course-related items, activities, or materials.

**Career Research & Decision Making:** The purpose of this course is to enable students to explore careers/career clusters and make informed career choices. Activities enable students to increase self-awareness and develop the skills needed to successfully plan for postsecondary education and the workplace. Career assessment should include interests, aptitudes, and basic skills. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include job shadowing, field trips, and mentors. Work-based activities allow students to evaluate their career choices as they relate to actual careers at the worksite.

**Digital Discoveries 6:** This course introduces students to computer science as a vehicle for problem-solving, communication, and personal expression. The course focuses on the visible aspects of computing and computer science. It encourages students to see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for exploration and expression. By taking this course, students will gain the knowledge needed to pursue the ICT Multimedia Essentials Digital Tool.

**Engineering 1 – Technical Design Technology:** The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to explore the area of technical design technology and its associated careers. Students will be given the opportunity to solve technological problems using a variety of tools, materials, processes and systems while gaining an understanding of the effects of technical design technology on our everyday lives.

**Engineering 2 – Robotics:** The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to explore the area of robotics technology and its associated careers. Students will be given the opportunity to solve technological problems using a variety of tools, materials, processes and systems while gaining an understanding of the effects of robotics technology on our everyday lives.

**Exploring 2D Art:** Students investigate a wide range of media and techniques, from both historical and contemporary perspective, as they engage in the art-making processes of creating two-dimensional works, which may include drawing, painting, printmaking, and/or collage. Student artists reflect on their own artwork and that of others through critical analysis to achieve artistic goals related to craftsmanship, technique, and application of 21st-century skills. Opportunities are provided for creative decision-making in the context of the structural elements of art and the organizational principles of design. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

**Exploring 3D Art:** Students learn to translate their two-dimensional skills into three-dimensional forms through the exploration of natural, abstract, and synthetic sculptural forms using materials that may include, but are not limited to, clay, plaster, and mixed media for creative expression. These student artists develop perceptual, creative, technical, and problem-solving skills in a sculptural context as they design and produce works of art with personal expression. Students in M/J Exploring Three-Dimensional Art focus on use of safety procedures for process, media, and techniques. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

**Exploring Music Performance, Guitar 1:** Students with little or no experience develop basic guitar skills and knowledge, including simple and full-strum chords, strumming patterns, playing/singing simple melodies, foundational music theory, parts of the guitar, and ensemble skills. Beginning guitarists explore the careers and music of significant performers in pop/rock, jazz, blues, classical, country, bluegrass, and hard rock/metal genres. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

**Health:** The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to become health literate and practice responsible behaviors to promote a healthy lifestyle and healthy living. This course focuses on the comprehensive health issues core to the optimal development of adolescents.

**Introduction to Arts, A/V Technology & Communication:** The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Arts, A/V Technology and Communication career cluster. Students are introduced to the terminology, careers, history, required skills, and technologies.



# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Courses

## River Ridge Middle School ~ 2026-2027 School Year

**Introduction to Cybersecurity:** This course will introduce students to the field of computer science, specifically the study of the many aspects of computing and networking systems and the rules, guidelines, and laws that affect their use in education, business, and everyday life. Instructional time will focus on areas such as computer hardware and software, wired and wireless networking, computing languages, internet and online safety, copyright and digital footprint, and career exploration.

**Introduction to Dance Techniques:** Students develop dance technique and movement vocabulary in one or more dance forms. In the process, dancers demonstrate use of class and performance etiquette, analytical and problem-solving skills, and studio practices in a safe dance environment. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside of the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Students in this class may need to obtain (e.g., borrow, purchase) appropriate footwear and/or dance attire from an outside source. This course satisfies one semester of the required physical education needed toward middle grades promotion. Please note that additional fees may apply for certain course-related items, activities, or materials.

**PE – Comprehensive 6/7:** This course is designed for 6th and 7th-grade students and intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation of knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the development of a physically active lifestyle. The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which includes, but is not limited to Fitness Activities, Educational Gymnastics and Dance, and Team Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

**PE – Fitness 6:** This fitness course is designed for 6th-grade students and intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become healthy and physically active for a lifetime. This course addresses both the health and skill-related components of physical fitness which are critical for students' success.

### **Full-Credit Electives (1.0) – Yearlong Course (August-May)**

**Band 1:** Students with little or no instrumental experience develop foundational instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument care and maintenance, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Please note that additional fees may apply for certain course-related items, activities, or materials.

**Chorus 1:** Students with little or no choral experience develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Please note that additional fees may apply for certain course-related items, activities, or materials.

**Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Learning Strategies:** The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop learning strategies, critical-thinking skills, and problem-solving skills to enhance their performance in academic and nonacademic endeavors. Content includes strategies for acquiring, storing, and retrieving information, strategies for oral and written communication, critical-thinking operations, processes, and enabling skills, problem-solving skills and strategies, and strategies for linking new information with prior knowledge.

**Dance 1:** Students develop dance technique and movement vocabulary in two or more dance forms. In the process, dancers demonstrate use of class and performance etiquette, analytical and problem-solving skills, and studio practices in a safe dance environment. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Students in this class may need to obtain (e.g., borrow, purchase) appropriate footwear and/or dance attire from an outside source. This course satisfies one semester of the required physical education needed toward middle grades promotion. Please note that additional fees may apply for certain course-related items, activities, or materials.

**Musical Theatre 1:** Student's coursework focuses on, but is not limited to, basic acting, basic vocal performance, basic dance/movement, non-dance movement, and staging, which transfer readily to musical theatre literature. Students will survey the current trends in musical theatre by studying representative literature. Students will explore the unique staging and technical demands of musicals in contrast to non-musical plays. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Please note that additional fees may apply for certain course-related items, activities, or materials.

**Orchestra 1:** Students who have little or no experience on violin, viola, cello, bass, or harp explore high-quality music literature written or transcribed for string orchestra. Study includes the development of foundational instrumental ensemble techniques, performance skills, music literacy, and aesthetic awareness. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source. Please note that additional fees may apply for certain course-related items, activities, or materials.



# RRMS Athletics Program

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade (26-27)

### Welcome

Welcome to RRMS Athletics! We offer a wide variety of sports and encourage all 6th grade students to tryout, get involved, and represent RRMS Athletics. This flyer includes important information about our sports offered, season dates, and participation requirements for the 2026-2027 school year. Thank you for your interest in our RRMS Athletics Program!

### Sports We Offer

6<sup>th</sup> Grade students can tryout for all RRMS sports.

-  **Football:** August - October
-  **Cheerleading:** August - February
-  **JV/Varsity Volleyball:** August - October
-  **JV/Varsity Girls Basketball:** October - December
-  **Boys Soccer:** November - December
-  **JV/Varsity Boys Basketball:** January - February
-  **Girls Soccer:** January - February
-  **Boys/Girls Track & Field:** March - April

### How To Prepare For Tryouts

To be eligible for RRMS sports tryouts, students must have an up-to-date sports physical (separate from a school physical) and complete Athletic Clearance prior to tryouts. You can start Athletic Clearance on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Athletic paperwork submitted in Athletic Clearance prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> will need to be resubmitted and won't be accepted.

### Academic Eligibility

All incoming 6th graders may try out for Semester 1 sports. A 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) for Semester 1 is required to be eligible for Semester 2 sports.

### Athletic Clearance



[athleticclearance.fhsaahome.org](http://athleticclearance.fhsaahome.org)

Athletic Clearance is an online process required by Pasco Schools Athletics Department. It includes safety videos, required forms, and acknowledgments. It is the only place to upload your tryout paperwork. All documents are located on the RRMS website—no paper copies are accepted. Everything must be submitted through Athletic Clearance prior to the tryout date.

### Questions?

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT RRMS.PASCO.K12.FL.US - SELECT "ATHLETICS"**