



# River Ridge Middle School

## Class of 2026

### Transitioning to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Year

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

#### KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

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

##### STEP 1: Create a myStudent Parent Portal

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

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

##### STEP 2: Pay School Fees

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

River Ridge spirit items. Instructions are enclosed for creating and accessing your Rycor/Acorn account.

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

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

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

#### WHAT CAN I DO TO PREPARE FOR 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE YEAR EXPENSES?

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

##### Required:

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

##### Optional:

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

#### STORM THE CASTLE

#### NEW RRMS STUDENT ORIENTATION – AUGUST 5<sup>TH</sup> (AM)

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

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

#### MEET THE TEACHER

#### OPEN HOUSE DAY

#### (RETURNING 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS) – AUGUST 5<sup>TH</sup> (PM)

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

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





# River Ridge Middle School

## Class of 2026

### Transitioning to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Year

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

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS TO HIGH SCHOOL

The state mandate (**F.S. 1003.4156**) requires that middle school students complete a Language Arts, Math, Science, & Social Studies course each year with a minimum grade of "D" as well as a career component to be promoted to high school (as a part of World History class through myLearning). Middle School students must also sit for the State Civics Assessment.

#### 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS

All 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will take the following assessments:

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

#### 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CONTACTS:

Mrs. Angie Murphy, Principal  
[amurphy@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:amurphy@pasco.k12.fl.us) 774-7208

Mr. Kevin Kolean, Assistant Principal  
[kkolean@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:kkolean@pasco.k12.fl.us) 774-7234

Mrs. Michelle White, School Counselor  
[mlwhite@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:mlwhite@pasco.k12.fl.us) 774-7253

Ms. Stacy Williams, School Social Worker  
[sswillia@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:sswillia@pasco.k12.fl.us) 774-7259

Mrs. Theresa Mundy, School Nurse  
[tmundy@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:tmundy@pasco.k12.fl.us) 774-7213

Mrs. Flo Cione, Bookkeeper  
[fcione@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:fcione@pasco.k12.fl.us) 774-7216

Ms. Chrissy Brando, Athletic Director  
[cbrando@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:cbrando@pasco.k12.fl.us) 774-7187

#### SCHOOL SPIRIT WEEKS

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

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

#### 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE FIELD TRIPS

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

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

#### END OF YEAR 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ACTIVITIES

8<sup>th</sup> graders wishing to participate in the end of year activities must meet eligibility requirements. Any 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who does not pass their current courses and/or fails to complete any course recovery from 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be ineligible to participate in any 8<sup>th</sup> grade end of year activities (4<sup>th</sup> quarter), because he/she would not have met the mandatory requirements for promotion to high school. **All final decisions on academic eligibility for end of year activities will be determined by administration and will be based on students meeting promotion guidelines.**

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

River Ridge Middle School will host a Promotion Ceremony for the Class of 2026 at 8AM on Monday, May 23 in the RRMS/HS Gymnasium. This is a formal occasion to celebrate the accomplishments of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders being promoted to high school. We invite family and friends to join us to recognize our outstanding 8<sup>th</sup> grade class.