

Navigating the River

#RMSGOODASGOLD

AUGUST 2, 2023

WELCOME TO NAVIGATING THE RIVER!

Tomorrow is the big day and we can't wait to see our students!! Each week, you will receive our newsletter containing important dates, events, and school news. Navigating the River is one of the best ways to stay up to date on what's happening at the River and ways to get involved to help make this school year the best yet! #RMSGoodAsGold



MEET & GREET FEEDBACK

We loved seeing all our Panther family at Meet & Greet. We hope it was full of information you needed to start the 2023-2024 school year off golden! If you have feedback you would like to share with us (both glowing and areas for growing), we'd love to hear it!

[Meet & Greet Feedback Form](#)

PANTHER PACK DISTRIBUTION

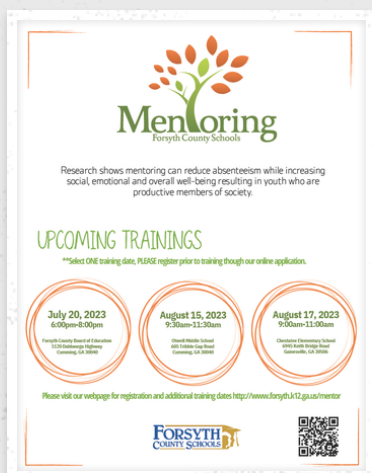
Students who purchased a \$20 Panther Pack from School Pay will receive those in class on Monday!

PANTHERS BEING #RMSGOODASGOLD

Our wonderful art teacher, Ms. Folea, had a painting selected for the Art of Georgia contest! Her winning painting will hang for the next year in either the Governor's Mansion or the Governor's



Office at the State Capitol. We're so lucky to have such talented staff, both in and out of the classroom!






INTERESTED IN BEING A MENTOR?

Register for a training today!

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST FOR 2023 - 2024

Check out the requested school supplies for your grade level!

Riverwatch Middle School School Supplies List for 2023-2024		
Class Supplies by Grade Level		
6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drawing/Tag or small backpack (10" x 12" x 8") that easily fits in locker• Two 1- or 1.5-inch binders• Notebook Paper• 3 Composition Notebooks• Pencil Pouch• Black/Black pens• Pencils• Highlighters in 3 colors• Colored Pencils• Scissors• Glue Sticks• White-Out• Erasers with cord for the clipboard• Dry Erase Markers• Pencil Holder• Homework Folder	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drawing/Tag or small backpack (10" x 12" x 8") that easily fits in locker• Two 1- or 1.5-inch binders• One 1/2- or 1-inch binder• One 1/2- or 1-inch binder• 3 Composition Notebooks• Graph Paper & Notebook Paper• 2 plastic three-prong, two-pocket folders• 10 sheet protectors• Pencil Pouch• Black/Black pens• Pencils• Highlighters in 3 colors• Colored Pencils• Scissors• Glue Sticks and Tape• Dry Erase Markers• Homework Folder• Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drawing/Tag or small backpack (10" x 12" x 8") that easily fits in locker• Three 1- or 1.5-inch binders with Tab Dividers• Graph Paper• Notebook Paper• 2 Composition Notebooks• Pencil Pouch• Black/Black pens• Pencils• Highlighters in 3 colors• Colored Pencils• Scissors• Plastic two-pocket folder• Glue Stick• Dry Erase Markers• 1 each of 3 1/2 index cards• Homework Folder
Requested Supplies for your Homeroom Teacher		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 boxes of tissues• 2 rolls of paper towels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 boxes of tissues• 2 rolls of paper towels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 boxes of tissues• 2 rolls of paper towels
Optional but Useful		
		



EVERYTHING YOU EVER NEEDED TO KNOW ABOUT PARENT PORTAL

Got a question about Parent Portal and grades/schedule/forms/navigation? Check out our Resource Guides here!

[Resource Guides for Parent Portal](#)

SCHOOL PAY VS MY PAYMENTS PLUS

Moving forward, My Payments Plus will only be utilized for school cafeteria purchases (breakfast/lunch/a la carte items). School Pay will be the new payment system used for other school purchasing needs.

Do you need more information on the meal offerings and nutrition information for Forsyth County Schools? Check out the School Nutrition page!

[School Nutrition](#)

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Carpool: Morning Carpool will begin at 8:15 and end at the 9:00 tardy bell. Please ensure all drivers pull as far forward as possible to make room for others. Our busiest carpool time is between 8:30-8:50. Please plan to leave in time to allow for traffic and longer carpool lines if you will arrive during this time.

Afternoon carpool will start at 4:12 and continue until the last student is picked up. Please make sure you arrive to pick your student up by 4:30. Please pull forward as far as possible to allow space for others. Encourage your student to look for your vehicle and have their belongings ready to load quickly and efficiently.

Bus: Transportation rosters will be available to view during open house. Students will be sorted by grade level and listed alphabetically along their grade levels hallways. Students and families will be able to see their assigned route number, estimated morning and afternoon pick-up/drop-off times, and bus stop locations. Families are also able to view this same transportation information by using their Parent Portal account and navigating to the Transportation tab. Parents can also view transportation information using the following link <https://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/Page/845> This has all the information concerning bus routes and who to contact if you have any transportation concerns.

Walker: Please make sure to complete the [Walker Form](#) available on the Riverwatch website!

CAR RIDER PROCEDURES

Attention Car Riders!

If you plan to drop off or pick up students utilizing the carpool method, here are a few reminders and key things to consider.

- Car rider line opens at 8:15 and ends at the 9:00 tardy bell. Please don't allow student to get out of vehicles until the 8:15 bell rings and you see an RMS staff member outside to welcome in students. Please pull as far forward as possible to allow room for all our families. The forward carpool areas are clearly marked.
- Please have all items (backpacks, lunch boxes, and supplies) ready to exit the vehicle. This will expedite time in the carpool line for yourself and others.
- Busiest morning carpool times are between 8:30 and 8:55. Please plan accordingly so you'll arrive on time and your student won't feel rushed getting to class.
- Afternoon carpool will begin at 4:12. Pulling as far forward as possible, having students know the car they are being picked up in, and being watchful are ways you and your

student can help speed up the process. Reminder that RMS does not do pick-up tags and staff do not put students in vehicles.

- Afternoon carpool typically starts backing up around 3:45. There is truly no need or rush to be first. We will be there until the last student is picked up. Once we get the system down, it moves very quick. Reminder, NEVER pull into the oncoming lane/traffic to go around cars to get to the front of the building.
- Students will NOT be allowed to walk across the parking lot to meet parents parked in the staff parking area. The carpool lane is the only approved pick-up area.
- Safety for your students and for yourselves is our top concern. Please help us by following the above procedures, staying off cell phones while moving in your vehicle, and maintaining safe travel speeds. Let's make this year the safest and best ever!

STUDENT MEDICATION PROCEDURE

If your student needs medication during the school day, please see the page for Nurse Brenda!

[Student Medication](#)

CANVAS HOW-TO GUIDES

To be best prepared for the first day of school, it would be beneficial for you and your student to review some navigation tips for our new learning management system, Canvas! Click [here](#) to be taken to the Forsyth County School's Canvas How-To Guides!

We do ask for grace as we are all learning Canvas together. With it being new for everyone this year, there may be times where bugs exist. If that's the case, please show patience as we work through the issues!

ATTENTION!

2023-24 Riverwatch Exam Schedule and Policy.

The following is the exam schedule and policy for the 2023-24 school year. All courses will have midterms and final exams. The test dates for this year have already been set. Please see the schedule of tests listed below and mark your calendars!

Midterms: December 13-15

- December 13th - Language Arts (All grades)
- December 14th - Science (All grades) and Spanish (8th grade only)
- December 15th - Math (All grades) and Social Studies (All grades)

Final Exams: May 16-21

- May 16th - Social Studies (All grades)
- May 17th - Language Arts (All grades)
- May 20th - Science (All grades) and Spanish (8th grade only)
- May 21st - Math (All grades)

Please note that no exams may be taken early - there will be no exceptions. All exams that are missed due to being out of town early will be placed into the gradebook as missing. Missing grades do calculate as a **zero**, but a grade change can be made for missed midterms (midterms only) if the student takes the midterms on the first day back to school in January. **There will be no opportunities to make up for missed end-of-year final exams.**

We hope that providing this information at the very beginning of school will ensure that all parents can plan and prepare in

UPDATED EXAM POLICY

Check out our updated Exam Policy!

COMING UP NEXT AT THE RIVER:

Next week, we'll continue talking about success tips and important dates to know!