



Riverwatch Middle School
 610 James Burgess Road
 Suwanee, GA 30024
 (678) 455-7311 – Fax (678) 455-7316
www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/riverwatchms
 School Hours: 9:00AM-4:15PM



Welcome! #RMSConnects

Welcome to our Riverwatch Middle School (RMS) Panther family! We are excited to have you join us. Middle school represents a time of tremendous growth, exciting change, as well as new challenges transitioning to a new school. We are fortunate at RMS to have amazing teachers/staff and with your partnership it will be a smooth transition for your child (ren). Below outlines some helpful tips to assist in the transition to RMS.

Registration - All Riverwatch students must be registered by Forsyth County Schools. If you have not had a chance to register at the county, please click [HERE](#) and follow these instructions to make an appointment.

Class Schedule – Once registration has been completed at the county, the student and guardian (s) will meet with an RMS Counselor to work on a class schedule, based on previous schedule and records. Class schedules will consist of 4 academic classes, 1 study skills/enrichment class or Spanish/Study skills for 8th grade, 2 connection courses, and Flex Time. Click [HERE](#) to see many of our connection course offerings.

New Student Tour - We have scheduled tours for new students on Tuesday, July 27th at 9:30am at the school. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

Open House Information –Open House will be Monday, August 2nd. This will be a “meet and greet” opportunity where you can follow your schedule and walk around and meet your teachers casually vs. a structured tour. Below is a guideline by last name as to help manage the crowds.

Open House – Monday, August 2	
Last Names Starting With	Time of Day
A-F	9:00am – 10:30am
G-L	11:00am – 12:30pm
M-Q	2:00pm – 3:30pm
R-Z	4:00pm – 5:30pm

Parent Portal – [Parent Portal](#) is an online application where parents can update contact information, access grades, check attendance and much more. You may also click [HERE](#) for instructions to add the Parent Portal App to your phone. If you do not have access to Parent Portal, please contact the school as soon as possible as you will find it a necessary tool.



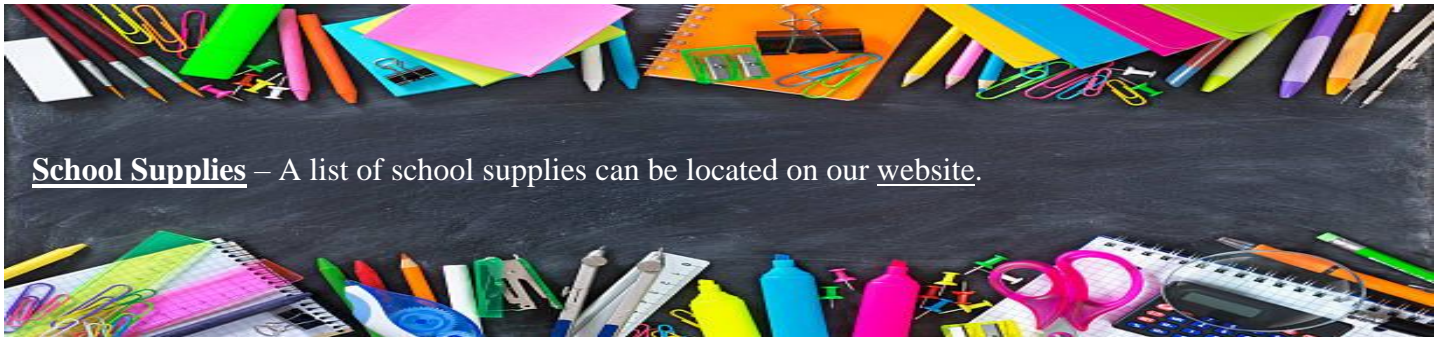
Class Assignments – Itslearning (On-line Learning Platform)

Itslearning is where teachers will place assignments and communicate with students. Parents should login to Itslearning with the Students ID (not parent ID). Students are provided their Its Learning ID the first day of school. Itslearning can be accessed from the front page of our website. Click [HERE](#) for a Help Guide to Itslearning.

Grades/Contact Information – Parent Portal*

Login to Parent Portal with Parent ID to view grades, contacts, email addresses, contact preferences, authorized checkout individuals, etc.

* If you do not have a Parent Portal ID, please contact the school for further assistance.



School Supplies – A list of school supplies can be located on our [website](#).

My Payments Plus - An account will need to be created on [My Payments Plus](#), using your Student ID (s). Using My Payments Plus you will be able to make payments for various field trips/events, add money to lunch account, setup reminders when lunch account running low, etc.

Transportation – Arrangements for transportation are between the parent/guardian and the student(s). Student may ride the bus one day and then be car rider the next. Please communicate with your child as the school does not get involved with communicating transportation changes.

- **Bus** – Bus assignments will be made within a couple days of registration.
- **Car Rider** – No car rider numbers, or tags are necessary. After school students will come out front of the building and wait for driver to pull around. Drivers must remain in their car.
- **Walkers** – Students can walk home with an approved permission slip on file. Permission slips may be located on the front page of our [website](#) under Quick Links.



Counselors – RMS has an amazing group of counselors that work together as a team. Counselors are assigned by grade-level but are always willing to help our panthers get acclimated.

Lisa Schroeder: f38498@forsyth.k12.ga.us 6th Grade
Regina Smith: f39438@forsyth.k12.ga.us 7th Grade
Wanda Ingram: f40166@forsyth.k12.ga.us 8th Grade

Lunch - Lunches are served by grade-level and times may vary each quarter. You can add money to your child's lunch account on [My Payments Plus](#). While parents may eat with their students at Riverwatch, most middle school students prefer that parents do not. A designated area is provided if you choose to come eat with your student as parents are not allowed in the cafeteria.

Media Center – RMS has a beautiful Media Center, which has great resources, books, and technology that may be checked out by students. Grade level English Language Arts classes will have selected books that the students will read together as a class, the Media Center will have these books available for purchase. Our Media Center is a wonderful place to go to study, relax and enjoy a bit of peace and quiet.

Agendas – All Panthers are encouraged to obtain an “agenda” which helps students stay organized with their assignments, projects, homework, and time management. Agenda are available for purchase on [My Payments Plus](#) prior to school starting and then in the Media Center during the school year.

Lockers – There are 2 different lockers used at Riverwatch. Our lockers are equipped with combination locks. No need to purchase a lock. However, if your student is not comfortable opening combination locks, it is suggested to purchase a lock and let them practice.



- **Academic Locker** –Purchase on [My Payments Plus](#) prior to school starting and in the Media Center during the school year. A locker fee is assessed for each student. After purchase, the student will take the receipt to the homeroom (HR) teacher and the HR teacher will assign locker number and code.
- **PE/Sports Locker** – Lockers will be assigned by the coaches during PE. A nominal fee is applied per student at the beginning of each quarter (nine weeks).

Flex Time - Flex Time is dedicated time during the school day when students will participate in social-emotional learning activities, be able to make up missing work, receive extra help from a classroom teacher, and build relationships with both an adult and other students in our school.

Clubs and Activities - Each year RMS has nearly 40 various clubs and organizations where students may get involved. Clubs are not up and running until September. These are great ways for new students to get to know others and help make school more intimate. Clubs and organizations, driven by student's desire, may meet during Flex Time, after school, before school, etc. Check out a sampling of [Clubs/Organizations](#) on our website.

Athletics - Panthers in 7th and 8th grade, that are eligible, may participate in school sports in Middle School. We encourage all 6th grade Panthers to come out and cheer on our RMS teams. Please refer to our [Athletics Webpage](#) for more details.

School Store – [The Panther Pit Stop](#) is our school store and the perfect place to get your spirit wear, school supplies, birthday grams, and always has popular seasonal items! The school store is located in the rotunda of the school and managed by our FBLA and DECA organizations.

Clinic– RMS has a full-time registered nurse (Nurse Kim) on staff daily during the school year. The safety and health of our students is our top priority. Please have your immunization record (3231) to the nurse before first day of school. Parent/guardian may leave medication, including over the counter (Ibuprofen, Tylenol, Advil, etc.), with proper documentation. You may reach Nurse Kim at kvarner@forsyth.k12.ga.us.

Code of Conduct – Code of Conduct policies are available to all students and guardians. The electronic version will be made available prior to school starting.

Attendance – Please forward attendance information to Mrs. Russo, Attendance Secretary. Parent or medical notes can be sent in with your student, delivered in person, faxed or emailed. NO checkouts or excused absences by phone.

Email: krusso81@forsyth.k12.ga.us

FAX: 678-455-7311

In-Person: Submitted in writing to the attendance office located in the RMS counseling office

- Please include student first and last name, student ID number, date(s) of absence(s) and reason.
- Notes must be submitted within five (5) school days of absence to be excused.
- Student written notes are not accepted.
- Forsyth County Schools Attendance Policy may be located at <https://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/page/688>

School Calendar - The [student school calendar](#) identifies school days, holidays, early release, school times, etc. for the 2021-2022 school year.

Join our PTSO - We have a very active Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) at RMS. We encourage all families to join the PTSO and become an active part of helping transform and make a difference in education for our children. For additional information or to get involved, email riverwatchmiddleptso@gmail.com or check out the website at www.rmsptso.org.

Stay Connected - We want to hear from you and more importantly want to be able to send you information. Please ensure that your contact information in [Parent Portal](#) is up-to-date and follow us on social media.

Riverwatch Middle School Website

<https://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/riverwatchms>

Riverwatch Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/riverwatchms/>

Riverwatch Middle School Twitter

<https://twitter.com/RiverwatchMS>

Welcome to Riverwatch!!