

# Riverdale High School



2600 Buckingham Rd.  
Fort Myers, FL 33905

Issue No. 3 Volume 1 | August 10, 2021

239-694-4141

[https://rdh.leeschools.net/our\\_school](https://rdh.leeschools.net/our_school)

## A Message from the Principal



For those new to the Raider family whom I have yet to meet, my name is Scott Cook and I am the proud Principal of Riverdale High School. I am very excited to see you here on campus and meet you. For those returning Raiders, welcome back! I hope that all of you had a restful summer and are as excited as I am to get the 2021-2022 school year started off! I truly anticipate this is going to be one of the most successful and memorable years in Riverdale's storied history.

Rest assured that your teachers, staff, and administrators have worked tirelessly over the break to not only ensure that the building is ready for you, but also that the staff is ready to welcome you back. We look forward to collectively planting our feet firmly in the present while always keeping an eye toward the future.

We have had several new additions to the staff that I am eager for you to meet, as well as, several ongoing improvements to the campus that we are anxious for you to see. Our goal is now, as it has always been, to make Riverdale a place that you do not just call home for 4 years, but a place that you refer to as home for a lifetime. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any member of the administrative team.

### School Board Members

#### The School Board Of Lee County, Florida:

Debbie Jordan, District 4 (Chair)  
Betsy Vaughn, District 6 (Vice Chair)  
Mary Fischer, District 1  
Melisa W. Giovannelli, District 2  
Chris N. Patricca, District 3  
Gwynetta S. Gittens, District 5  
Cathleen O'Daniel Morgan, District 7  
Kathy Dupuy-Bruno, Esq., Board Attorney  
Superintendent: Dr. Ken Savage



### Riverdale Administration

Mr. Scott Cook, Principal

Mrs. Julie Powell, Assistant Principal

Ms. Melissa VonHagen, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Nicole Johonnett, Assistant Principal

Mr. Robert Taylor, Dean of Students

Mrs. Shari Abrams, Dean of Students

### VISION STATEMENT

Our students set goals and learn the skills they each need to achieve them. Students then apply their learned abilities to their goals in order to best prepare

### MISSION STATEMENT

Will adapt to the changing face of the community while preparing to meet the needs of a global society

School Public Accountability Report School Public Accountability Report (SPAR) and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Report are available on the RHS website and also in the front office.

# 2021 BACK TO SCHOOL INFORMATION

## Sign out Procedures

### Student Drivers:

To request a release of an RHS student parents should fill out the form on the school website. Once submitted, this form will be automatically sent to the attendance department. Please allow thirty minutes for release from the time of submission.

- No electronic sign out requests will be taken after 10:00 A.M. Daily.
- No telephone or email requests are accepted

### Students that DO NOT drive:

No student will be signed out without a parent coming in to the attendance office. Students are not permitted to sign-out after 1:00 p.m. per district policy.

## Attendance Policy

In an effort to become the highest performing public high school in the state of Florida, students must be in school. Attendance and graduation are an integral part of what we do at FMHS as it goes hand in hand with student achievement. As such we want to make sure that students have every opportunity to achieve their potential through a tradition of excellence. Our attendance policy outlines attendance expectations, privileges, tardies, skipping, and sign-outs.

- At 5 Unexcused Absences/Tardies/Sign Outs (per semester) - A school counselor will call the student down for a conference and a call is made home.
- At 7+ Unexcused Absences/Tardies/Sign Outs (per semester) - Our Assistant Principal calls for a parent conference with guidance. Attendance contract is put in place with administration.

\*We hold students accountable when they are in violation of the attendance policy by placing them on an attendance contract at 7+ Unexcused Absences/Tardies/Sign-Outs (per semester) and taking away the following privileges: • Homecoming Dance • Grad Bash • Prom • Parking Permit (student must remit parking pass until further notice) • Walking at Graduation • Senior Picnic/Senior Breakfast • Extra-Curricular Activities (as deemed by administration)

\*Students will be able to earn these privileges back with consecutive attendance to school, being on time for classes and limited sign outs for 30 days.

Each day student is absent, contract begins over with day 1. Failure to return a signed contract results in the loss of the same privileges above.

- 10 Unexcused Absences/Tardies/Sign-Outs (per semester)-Social worker is notified and parent must attend an attendance review to discuss possible denial of credit.
- 3 Unexcused Tardies to School may equal an absence-as set forth by the Lee County School District Code of Conduct

**Parent Portal/E-Forms**  
**All parents/guardians must register in the FOCUS Parent Portal as well as complete student directory information and student health information. These online forms must be completed each year even if no information has changed. The following forms are required per the School District of Lee County: Attendance Policy, Integrity Form, Bully Form, and the Code of Conduct Form.**

## Teachers Out of Field

*Florida State Board Rule 6A-1.0503(3) requires that the School Board must approve all instructional personnel who are assigned to teach out-of-field. In addition, per Florida Statutes 1012.42(2), all parents of students being taught by a teacher who is out-of-field must be notified. This includes teachers who are out-of-field in ESOL.*

Mrs. Bechler – ESOL  
Mr. Bimonte – ESOL  
Mr. Burke – ESOL  
Mr. Downs – ESOL and Reading  
Mr. Esposito – ESOL  
Mr. Joyner – ESOL  
Mr. Nelson – ESOL  
Mr. Newman – ESOL  
Mr. Quattrone – Math  
Ms. Shelton – ESOL  
Mr. Taylor – ESOL  
Mrs. Waldrop – Math

**Parking Permits are available for purchase for \$40. Fill out the form that is available on the school website and see Ms. Curry in Student Affairs. All cars parked on campus must have a permit by August 27th. Students are to park in their designated parking spot only.**

## Riverdale Cell Phone Policy

Students will place cell phone in a backpack, which will be placed in a designated area of the classroom.  
(teacher chooses location)

Step 1: Warning, teacher asked student to put cell phone in designated area.

Step 2: Teacher calls Student Affairs for cell phone and student removal.

ISSUE NO. 3 VOLUME 1 | AUGUST 10, 2021

# 2021 BACK TO SCHOOL INFORMATION

Dear Parents and Students,

To help clarify some questions that came up specifically regarding tops, we have provided below detailed clarification per the School District Code of Conduct. Please remember that the RHS dress code is an overview and you can access the actual Code of Conduct from the link below.

<https://www.leeschools.net/common/pages/DisplayFile.aspx?itemId=5153866>

**RHS DRESS CODE EXPECTATIONS** The purpose of the Dress Code is to encourage students to focus on the learning process without the distractions of unsuitable dress and grooming. Students shall maintain a clean, orderly appearance at all times.

1. **Translucent (see-through) or lace tops are not permitted**
2. **Shirts may not be tied up or cut off. Shirts shall be appropriately fastened in accordance with the design of the clothing.**
3. **Midribs (shirts that show any part of stomach), strapless, tube tops, tank tops (including spaghetti straps), muscle shirts, halters or low-cut clothing are not permitted.**
4. **All shirts or dresses worn under jackets, sweatshirts, or sweaters must adhere to the dress code.**
5. **Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be finger-tip length.**
6. **Pants shall be properly fastened, buttoned, zipped and worn at the natural waistline.**
7. **Shoes (appropriate footwear) shall be worn at all times. All footwear must have back/straps. Bedroom slippers and slides are not permitted.**
8. **The wearing of hats, "doo rags", bandanas, or hoods are not permitted. Hats may be worn at P.E. only.**
9. **Any articles of clothing or jewelry that could likely cause injury are not permitted.**
10. **Symbols that promote the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco or any other illegal activity are not permitted.**
11. **Clothing with slogans or advertising of a controversial or obscene nature are not permitted.**
12. **Leggings and all spandex/lycra bottoms may be worn as long as no skin or undergarments can be visible (no see through). Pajama pants are not permitted.**

**If a student is out of dress code, they will sit in a designated area until they are able to acquire proper clothing.**

# GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

**Mr. Carter: Social Worker**

**Mrs. Gonzalez: Graduation Coach, Equity Coordinator**

**Ms. Strack: 9th - 12th A-E & IS/SF/LS**

**Mr. Hampel: 9th - 12th F-O**

**TBA : 9th - 12th P-Z & Dual Enrollment**

**Mrs. Hammond: 9th - 12th IB & Former IB, Dept. Head**

**Mrs. Budmayr: IB Coordinator**

Class Google  
Classroom Codes

9th- kzi7tmd

10th- mjfprcv

11th- up72kat

12th- acyyaqs

## **ACT Testing Dates**

September 11, 2021

October 23, 2021

December 11, 2021

February 12, 2022

April 2, 2022

June 11, 2022

July 16, 2022

## **SAT Testing Dates**

October 2, 2021

November 6, 2021

December 4, 2021

March 12, 2022

May 7, 2022

June 4, 2022

**Graduation**  
**Requirements**



### *Class Information*

## FRESHMAN

Class officer Elections will take place the week of August 20th. The application link is available in the class of 2025 Google Classroom. kzi7tmd

## SOPHOMORES

Reminder to sign up for the Google Classroom for important information. The code is mjfprcv

## JUNIORS

Reminder to sign up for the Google Classroom for important information. The code is up72kat

## SENIORS

- Timeline will be posted soon with important Senior Events.
- Make sure to schedule your senior portraits for the yearbook with Cady Studio
- Reminder to sign up for the class google classroom. The code is acyyaqs

**YEARBOOK**  
**\$70.00**

Order at  
jostensyarbooks.com  
by 9/17/2021



# IB News

## Riverdale IB Class of 2021

### Schools IB Class of 2021 will attend:

- FAMU
- FAU
- FGCU (11)
- Ashland University
- FSU (\*)
- FMTC
- Penn State University
- Sante Fe College
- UCF (6)
- UF (11)
- University of Notre Dame
- USF (8)
- University of Miami (2)
- University of Tampa (4)
- University of Virginia

**Scholarships Offered**  
**\$4,468,186**  
**Bright Futures**  
**Scholarships \$1,375,000**  
**Total Scholarships**  
**Earned \$5,843,186**

- **95% Pass Rate-IB Diploma (Highest in the history of the Riverdale IB Program)**
- **100% Acceptance Rate College (13th year in a row)**
- **Over 6000 hours of community service**

### 3 full-ride scholarships

#### ***Megan Ayers***

QuestBridge Match Scholarship to University of Virginia \$300,000 (full-ride)

#### ***Cristian Ajanel-Sica***

University of Florida Machan Scholarship \$85,000 (full-ride)

#### ***Amaria Tarver***

University of Florida Machan Scholarship \$85,000 (full-ride)

### Prestigious educational opportunity

#### ***Cole Erickson***

University of Florida – Presidential Scholarship \$51,960

\*Invitation to UF's Research Scholars Program (offered to the top 5% of UF's Incoming Freshman Class)

# IB ART SUPPLIES

Hardback Sketchbook Required. All other materials *suggested*. You may find similar items at a fairer price at any art store such as Michaels, Hobby Lobby, etc...



Scan the QR Code for *recommended* supplies. (Please keep in mind this list is suggesting supplies for Riverdale's 2 year Diploma Program.) We do provide basic supplies at school to use in the classroom, but I highly recommended students obtain their own sets of their choice. Carrying these items to my class daily does prove to be difficult, so these items may be stored in a safe place in my art room that cannot be accessed by other students. (Room 106.)

You should be working in your sketchbook daily and it is imperative to carry it with you at all times. You should be creating not only here at school, but anywhere creativity strikes. If you or your parents have any questions or cannot obtain these supplies, please feel free to contact me at the email address listed below:

[AmberQR@leeschools.net](mailto:AmberQR@leeschools.net)  
*Ms. Ross*

# Drivers Education



## Driver's Education- Frequently asked questions:

### **When should I enroll my student in Driver Education?**

He/she should have their Learner's Permit, and if possible, be able to supplement the lessons done at school with practice at home. Their experience is not important, they can have zero experience or they could be the predominant driver for the family.

### **What does my student need to do to acquire their Learner's Permit?**

To find a full list of requirements to acquire a Learner's Permit, visit <https://www.flhsmv.gov/driver-licenses-id-cards/licensing-requirements-teens-graduated-driver-license-laws-driving-curfews/>

### **Can my student gain their full license while in Driver Education?**

Yes, this is possible. Per DELAP (Driver education licensing assistance program) I am allowed to give the Driver License Test to any student who has met the requirements and is enrolled in Driver Education. To find a full list of requirements, visit <https://www.flhsmv.gov/driver-licenses-id-cards/licensing-requirements-teens-graduated-driver-license-laws-driving-curfews/>

### **Do car insurance companies offer a discount to students who complete a Driver Education course?**

Some do and some do not. The best way to find out if yours does is to call them and ask. If they do, to get the discount you will send a copy of your student's transcript after the completion of the course.

### **Are there Saturday or Summer options for Driver Education?**

Yes! And if your student doesn't have a free elective period during the school day, it could be the perfect opportunity for him/her. The 2021 Fall Saturday Driver Education courses will start August 21st and will end November 6th. The sign-up lists can be found in the Driver Education classroom (Portable 1).

If you have any other questions in regards to Driver Education please contact Jesse Aycock.

Jessewa@leeschools.net

(239) 694-4141





# RAIDERS

## ATHLETICS

# SPORTS

**GO FANS: Ticket sales**

**The Riverdale Cheer team had a great summer attending UCA camp. They walked away with 2 Superior Trophies and 2 Spirit sticks. They were invited once again to perform in The Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. The team is excited and preparing for a great sideline and competition season.**

Softball Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 24th after school in Room 1-02. See Ms. Manetta for any questions.

See Ms. Muller in Room 8-02 for more information on Girls Lacrosse

See Mr. Joyner in Room 3-09 for more information on Girls Golf

Baseball meeting will be Tuesday August 17th in room 6-24 after school until 2:00. All students playing fall sports do not need to come to the meeting. Workouts began on Tuesday August 24th in the weight room from 1:45 – 3:00. Workouts will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Any questions see Coach Pringle in room 6 – 24.

## PHYSICAL PAPERWORK

ALL PHYSICAL PAPERWORK MUST BE UPLOADED BEFORE COMING OUT FOR WORKOUTS. PLEASE SEE THE SCHOOL ATHLETIC WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR SEE [LINK.](#)



# HOME OF THE RAIDERS

Bowling-Coach Rachel Marshall  
Cross Country-Coach Stacey Green  
Football-Coach James Delgado

## Raider Football

Golf-Boys-Coach Skyler Dennis  
Golf-Girls-Coach Nicholas Joyner  
Swimming-Coach Pam Barry  
Volleyball- Coach Roni Hipp

Fall Schedules can be located on the school website.

# RIVERDALE

8.20	BISHOP VEROT	9.17	IMMOKALEE <small>STAFF APPRECIATION NIGHT</small>	10.15	BYE
8.27	AT FORT MYERS	9.24	MARINER <small>HOMECOMING</small>	10.22	NORTH PORT <small>SENIOR NIGHT</small>
9.3	NORTH FORT MYERS <small>GOLISANO</small>	10.1	LEHIGH	10.29	AT PALMETTO RIDGE
9.10	AT DUNBAR	10.8	AT PORT CHARLOTTE	11.5	AT SOUTH FORT MYERS



RIVERDALE FOOTBALL

# School News



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**Be sure to keep up with your school!**

Riverdale's website:  
<https://rdh.leeschools.net/>

Twitter:  
[@RiverdaleRaider](https://twitter.com/RiverdaleRaider)

**2600 Buckingham Rd. Fort Myers, FL 33905**

**P: 239-694-4141 | F: 239-694-3527**

**<https://rdh.leeschools.net/>**



## What is the Education Academy?

The Academy is a four year, county sponsored program for students interested in teaching. Completion of the program gives the student a contingency contract, guaranteed job, with Lee County once they finish college and testing requirements.

## Education Academy Mission Statement

### The mission of Riverdale Education Academy is:

- To get prospective teachers fired up about teaching
- To offer students a sequence of courses that provide a better understanding of teaching
- To provide students with experience in working with students in grades K-12
- To allow students to work directly with teachers to gain an in-depth knowledge of teaching
- To instruct students on the best practices of teaching



## I teach: What is your super power??

### Contact Information

Elizabeth Wood  
Instructor/Coordinator  
Education Academy  
National Board Certified Teacher  
[elizabethaw@leeschools.net](mailto:elizabethaw@leeschools.net)  
239-694-4141

## Education Academy Activities

- Learning tips and best practices from current teachers.
- Observations of teachers-specific hours required for each level:
  - Level 1-20 hours
  - Level 2-30 hours
  - Level 3-50 hours
  - Level 4-internship
- Public speaking practice and lesson planning
- Maintain a portfolio throughout the 4 years that can be used as a resource in the future
- Field trips to elementary and middle schools to observe other grade levels
- Curriculum includes introduction to teaching, human growth and development, differentiate instruction and classroom internship
- Experienced teacher guest speakers

### Florida Future Educators of America (FFEA)

FFEA will meet the first and third Thursdays of each month in room 4-03 from 1:45-3:00. Students will need to provide their own ride home.