



# Riverdale HIGH SCHOOL



## October 2015

SUCCESS IS A CHOICE!

## IT IS A GREAT TIME TO BE A RAIDER!



### Principal's comments:

Welcome back to what I believe will be an extremely exciting new year. Teachers, staff and administration, including new Assistant Principals, Jill Johnson and Tony Allen, have been working long hours all summer to prepare for the new year. I am Gerald Demming the Principal of Riverdale High School, and I am looking forward to providing your child the opportunity to grow and mature. We want to give all students the chance to succeed. Our theme is "Success is a Choice", and we know all students, parents and staff will choose to succeed.

Last year we had many successes including:

- Graduation rate above District and State average
- State qualifiers in Band, Science Fair, History Fair and Odyssey of the Mind
- FBLA was District Chapter of the Year
- District Digital Design winner
- Student received full-ride scholarship to #1 rated college in the United States
- Student appointed to Air Force Academy
- Decreased drop-out rate
- AP success rate was the best in RHS history
- SAT averages above District, State and National average
- "Best in Show" – Student Film Festival
- Silver Rated School by US News and World Report
- Washington Post's "America's Most Challenging School"
- 100% of IB students accepted to college
- 4<sup>th</sup> in State Wrestling
- 3<sup>rd</sup> in State Cheerleading
- All athletic programs had over a 3.0 average GPA
- #1 in East Zone and 2<sup>nd</sup> in District for all athletics

We want to encourage all students to get involved in extra-curricular activities. Studies have proven that students who become involved in after-school activities achieve academically at a much higher rate.

Riverdale has an open door policy. Your concerns are our concerns and we hope you will contact us when the need arises. Parents are our most important resource, and we encourage you to play an integral part in your children's education.

Finally, I want you to know that reading, writing and discussion will be the top priority for Riverdale, as well as for the entire district. We will emphasize the importance of reading, writing and discussion in school and we are asking all parents to encourage their students to read, write and discuss not only at school, but also at home. The main thing is academic achievement at Riverdale High School. I look forward to a great 2015-2016 school year!

**BELIEF STATEMENT** :PUBLIC EDUCATION IS IMPERATIVE TO SUPPORT AND SUSTAIN A DIVERSE DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY. TO THIS END, WE BELIEVE, STUDENT LEARNING IS THE CHIEF PRIORITY FOR OUR SCHOOL. CHALLENGING EXPECTATIONS INCREASE STUDENT PERFORMANCE. STUDENTS LEARN IN DIFFERENT WAYS AND SHOULD BE PROVIDED WITH A VARIETY OF INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACHES TO SUPPORT THEIR LEARNING. THE HOME, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY MUST SERVE AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER. TEACHING AND LEARNING REQUIRE A HEALTHY, SAFE AND ORDERLY ENVIRONMENT. RESOURCES AND SERVICES ARE ESSENTIAL FOR EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION. ALL STAFF MUST CONTINUE TO LEARN AND ALL SCHOOLS MUST CONTINUE TO IMPROVE.



## RIVERDALE FOOTBALL

by Kyle Dawson

Riverdale High is pleased to invite all of Fort Myers to participate in their leap to the forefront of Lee County football. After a fantastic first season, Coach Damon Jones' Raiders are ready to shock SW FL.

This year, the Raiders are excited to deliver their wide open offensive attack and smothering secondary, lead by senior Daniel Malivert and the lightning fast sophomore Jacob Tracey. In addition to the big names, Jones' team stands behind one of the biggest and best offensive lines that Lee County could offer. At the heels of more than a ton of offensive line muscle, QB Dan Ulmer's mission to slash and grind the Raiders to the 7A State Title is more a reality than ever. Coach Jones is proud to showcase his 2015-2016 Riverdale Raiders to any and all of Lee County's

eager football fans! With Jones at the helm, the offensive attack and team expectations are sky high!

This year's Freshmen Football team has the potential to be the best in Lee County. Quarterback Dylan Ulmer is looking to step out of his older brother's shadow, Quarterback Daniel Ulmer, who leads our varsity team. Look for his key receiver's My'Quan Shackelford, Jaylin Cochran and Trevor Dinkens to help spread the field with ground game trio-threat Quantavius Brown, Emmanuel Devaney, and Jerry Williams lightening the load for a powerful offense.

Do not overlook the Defense which is being led by Safety Zach Luna and Defensive Back Roy Alexander. Linebackers Luis Valentin and Joey Terebieniec will back a strong front line

of Trace Dunn, T.J Barfield, Colton Campbell and Clay Cook who will be a force to reckon with upfront and cause problems for opposing teams.

Overall, the young talent of Raider Nation looks promising, and will be good additions to an already growing powerhouse of a Varsity team. Go Raiders!



*Photos Courtesy of Wendy Hillman*



## History in the Making

by Meghan Newton

Riverdale swim team defeated Fort Myers High for the first time on August 27th, 2015 and in the process, four people broke two records. In 1994, Julie Althausser, Danielle Hendrick, Christine Pellicer, and Randi Estes set the record in the 200 medley relay. In 2009, Mimi Carmaine, Niki Whaley, Sarah White, and Lauren Angat set the record in the 200 Free Relay. It took Riverdale twenty-

one years to beat the 200 medley relay record and six years to beat the 200 free relay record. Lizzy White, Mikaila McLaughlin, Gabby Shepherd, and Isabella Reina squashed both records. Riverdale has never defeated Fort Myers High in swim until, August 27th, 2015, a day that will go down in Riverdale history forever.

*Photos Courtesy of Wendy Hillman*



## Cross Country

The Raider Boys Cross Country Team is having an excellent season. The boys have been finishing in the top ten. Recently, they finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place at their own meet, The Caloosahatchee Riverdale Invitational. The boys varsity roster is made up of some very talented boys: Zach Roussell, Trevin Myers, Lesme Ruiz, Ty Girtman, and Jose Medina all led by our two Seniors Dennis Eskilsen and Team Captain Austin Macon. We also have a talented JV team of Anthony Tavares, Mark Stanberry, Jordhe Moran, Josiah Swarts, Curtis Herron, Ruben Ramos, Brian Torres, and Jonah Penalver. Currently, the boy's team is ranked second in district 3A-11 right behind Fort Myers High. Determination and commitment has led to strong races at some great meets this year, The DDD Invite and The Mt. Dew Gator Invitational. They will also be traveling to FSU and Disney to show off their talent.



## Riverdale Boys Golf

We are off to a great start to the golf season at Riverdale. The boys have competed several times and have only fallen short to the Fort Myers Green Wave. We have scored in the 170's and one time at 183 which is a very respectable score for 9 holes of golf by 4 players. Fort Myers scored 150 to our 171, Cypress, Cape Coral, and South Fort Myers High schools have fallen prey to our laser like golf shots. Mark Iwinski Jr. shot a 34 at River Hall on Thursday, 9/10 which is 2 under par. If he continues like this he will be a state tournament contender.

Our entire team is strong. We have 6-7 athletes that could put up scores in the 40's and that is very unusual. 4 scores in the 40's will usually win the match but we have a couple who will shoot low 40's and in the 30's most of the time. We are happy to represent Riverdale on the links and are hosting the District Tournament at River Hall. Come out to a match and watch these boys put shots up like the pros.

Your team is Mark Iwinski Jr., Tainter Bundy, Steele Spinosa, Troy Lima, Zack Robbins, Devin Harris, Henry Maag, Justin Maschmidt, Kurtis Eres, and Mason Roy. With only one senior we will have a spectacular season next year, as well. It is a great time to be a Raider!

## RAIDER LADY VOLLEYBALL



The Volleyball team is currently 12-4, 1-1 in district play. The team competed at the High School Showcase in Orlando and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Classic division going 4-1 while there. The team also finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in their own Invitational finishing 3-1. Kylee Whiteleather and Kacy Ogden were named to the All-Tournament team.



## Riverdale Wrestling

The Riverdale Raiders wrestling team traveled to Ft. Wayne, Indiana to wrestle in the Indiana Pre-season Open. Over 600 wrestlers competed from across the nation in this huge tournament. James Monos made it to the semi-finals and Hunter Weeks made it to the quarters. Other participants were Trey Floyd, Austin Holland, Caleb Cavanaugh, and Coleby Barnes. These boys worked hard and wrestled well all weekend.

Wrestling conditioning is Tuesday and Thursday 2-4pm and Wednesdays 6-7:30pm at Riverdale.



## World Languages Celebrates Top Scores.

by Louis Lillard



RHS World Language is very proud of its International Baccalaureate Diploma scores from last year. Many of the students received very high scores and were some of the highest in the school and district. Also, the AP Spanish Language scores were some of the highest in the school. District wide the AP Spanish scores were the top score of all AP classes.

La Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica has begun, and is planning several festivities.

Also a National French Honor Society will be established soon. French students are excited. Watch for more World Language news!

## Future Business Leaders of America

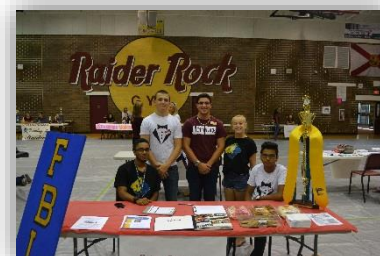
(FBLA) membership open until October 1st

Students should come check us out before the window on membership closes! Future Business Leaders of America meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month for less than 30 minutes.

This group is open to everyone in the school who is interested in any kind of business. Last year's roster topped 100. Seventy members competed at Districts and all placed. Thirty students went on to the State Leadership Conference.

Riverdale FBLA is part of a national organization that boasts a quarter million members. The FBLA point system ensures deserving students will be recognized for their leadership and participation, with cash prizes for those who excel. Members conduct several fundraisers, some community service and compete in one of 60 topics. Also, students can earn Business Achievement Awards.

This year's officers include: Steele Spinosa, Nicky Ribot, Meghan Newton, Alex Sanabria, Rachel Bibbey, Jakob Barr and Ohee Syed. FBLA officers remind students



of the resume' and college transcript "wow factor" that membership offers.

Chapter adviser Ileana Flores was promoted to District Director, with Ryan White and Dr Frank Palaia serving as assistant advisers.

FBLA is a national [career and technical student organization](#). It primarily helps students transition to the business world and is the largest student-run business related organization in the world. Students can join for \$30, which includes a club shirt, national, state and district dues. Dues must be paid by Oct. 1 in order for students to compete. Seniors can apply for the FBLA State Scholarship. Events include everything from highly technical Computer Game Simulation to no-tech, such as Public Speaking, Job Interview, and Sports Management.

Riverdale FBLA is also seeking professional members and business partners. Call Ileana Flores at 694-4141.

## Raider Battalion JROTC, SY 15 - 16

The Riverdale JROTC program welcomes all of the students back for another exciting year. This year's Raider Battalion looks very promising and has the potential for an outstanding year. This past year we again earned a perfect Honor Unit with Distinction by scoring 400 out of 400 points on our Unit Report. We will encourage all returning cadets to set an example and use their knowledge of JROTC to help the new cadets. With the combined effort of our returning cadets, our new cadets, and parents, we can expect a fun and productive year in JROTC. This year will be especially exciting as we will have our 5 year Formal Inspection from our Brigade Headquarters. The number of students enrolling in JROTC has been increasing each year at Riverdale and throughout the county. This year we have over 300 cadets enrolled in JROTC. Master Sergeant (MSG) Villaverde will be starting his fourth year of instruction at Riverdale and he will be instructing the first year JROTC cadets. 1SG Trent will be starting his 22<sup>st</sup> year at Riverdale and Major Falck is starting his 20<sup>th</sup> year at Riverdale.

Each year a new Battalion Staff is appointed for the year. The Battalion Staff is responsible for planning and running nearly all of the battalion's operations. They are the chain of command for your son or daughter. It is imperative that your son or daughter learn the names of those cadets in the chain of command and what positions they hold. All cadets will be quizzed on the chain of command during the weekly inspections.

Our Uniform day is Wednesday of every week. With the alternating block schedule your son or daughter will only have to wear scheduled that day. This will actually reduce the number of days the cadets get to wear their uniform to 2 or 3 times a month. The first Wednesday of each month cadets will wear the Army

Service Uniform (ASU), blue pants and grey shirt, once they are issued. Cadets are required to wear the uniform the entire day and will be graded on how well they wear it during Inspection on that day. The uniform inspection will count for twenty-five percent of the students overall grade. We hope to have all of the cadets in uniform by the middle of October. The uniforms are issued free of charge, we ask that the blue pants be dry cleaned only, the ACU (camouflage) pants and the grey shirts may go in the regular laundry. The cadets will have to return the Uniform at the end of the school year and will be charged if they lose any of the issued items.



### JROTC Calendar

Each year JROTC cadets participate in many exciting activities and community support projects. The events scheduled so far for this year are as follows:

Oct. 31 - Raider Challenge

Feb. 27 – JROTC Ball

Nov. 10 - Veterans Day Ceremony

Mar. 12 – Lee County Drill Meet

Nov. 11 -Veterans Day Parade

Apr. 21 County Marksmanship

Nov. 5- Pride and Patriotism

Apr. 23 State Marksmanship

Dec. State Raider Challenge

Apr. 8 - State Drill Meet

Dec. 8 - 18 - Edison Holiday House

May 5 - County Awards Ceremony

Jan. 28 -UT and USF college trip

June 14 - Summer Camp

\*Any changes in dates or unmentioned events will be posted on the bulletin board inside the JROTC room.

### This year's Battalion Staff is as follows:

<b>Battalion Commander:</b>	Mr. Miguel Viera	P.O.B, Mr. Matthew Bauer
<b>Battalion X.O.:</b>	Ms. Jeimy Gonzalez	<b>S-3:</b> Ms. Paige Brocker
<b>C.S.M:</b>	Ms. Samantha Zamora	<b>S-4:</b> Mr. Kennedy Eleaby
<b>S-1</b>	Ms. Meghan Freeman	<b>S-5:</b> Ms. Brianna rosario
<b>S-2:</b>	Mr. Bradley Bowersox	<b>S-6:</b> Ms. Kira Riche



This past summer 32 of our cadets participated in the JROTC Summer Camp at Camp Flaming Arrow in central Florida. All of the JROTC programs in Lee County participated and There were over 300 cadets at the 4 day camp.

Finally on the 26th of August, we kicked off our annual Cheese Cake Fund raiser. Make sure you get your orders in with your favorite cadet. This year the funds will help in maintaining our rappelling tower, climbing wall and zip line. Additionally we will upgrade our Leadership Reaction Course (LRC) with new boards and new elements. Funds will also be placed on account with each cadet participating and if those cadets want to participate in any events like the JROTC Ball a portion of their fund raising money can be used towards that event. JROTC receives 40% of the total amount collected during the cheese cake sales.

If you have any questions about the JROTC Program at Riverdale, contact Major Falck, First Sergeant Trent or MSG Villaverde at 694-4141 x 286 or [stevefa@leeschools.net](mailto:stevefa@leeschools.net), [michaelrt@leeschools.net](mailto:michaelrt@leeschools.net), [ignaciov@leeschools.net](mailto:ignaciov@leeschools.net)



# ARMY JROTC

Check out Riverdale High School's website [www.rdh.leeschools.net](http://www.rdh.leeschools.net) to be up to date on all the amazing events taking place at RHS! Don't forget to follow Riverdale on Twitter @RiverdaleReads

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## The Greatest Show on Turf!

October 5<sup>th</sup> thru October 10<sup>th</sup>

### 2015 Homecoming

**Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>:** Let's Get Ready to Rumble Day

\*Womanless Beauty Pageant (WBP) 6:30 PM RHS Auditorium

**Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>:** Come One, Come All Day

\*Lunchtime activities to Benefit the Gulf Coast Humane Society RHS

**Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>:** Under The Big Top Day

**Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>:** Classy Color Day

Powder Puff Football 6:30 PM Karl Engle Field

Freshman vs. Seniors Game #1

Sophomores vs. Juniors Game #2

Powder Puff Cheerleading Competition

Losers play for 3<sup>rd</sup> place Game #3

Winners play for 1<sup>st</sup> place Game #4

\*Lunchtime activities to benefit the Gulf Coast Humane Society RHS Cafeteria

**Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>:** Gleaming and Glittering With Garnet and Gold Day

\* Pep Rally TBA RHS Gymnasium

\*Homecoming Parade 6:30 PM RHS Stadium

\*Football Game against the Desoto Bulldogs 7:30 PM RHS Stadium

\*Crowning of the Homecoming King & Queen Halftime RHS Stadium

**Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>:**

\*Homecoming Dance 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM RHS Gymnasium/Cafeteria

## Attention Juniors and Seniors:

On Monday, October 12 at 6:30 pm, Keiser University is coming to the Riverdale Auditorium for an ACT Workshop.

This workshop is for students and parents and will provide helpful tips that will work to improve scores. In addition, you will receive information on outside resources regarding the ACT and tips for parents on how to encourage your students for ACT preparation. This workshop is free to our Riverdale Community. If you need additional information, please contact Joan Starr @ 694-4141.

## A school fundraiser that won't cost you anything!

The Life Skills class at Riverdale High School is collecting SODA POP TABS. We are recycling them into jewelry AND/OR donating them to the Ronald McDonald House.

Just save and send them to RHS c/o of Mrs. M&M Room 8-03 or Ms. Fox Room 103. The students are learning about recycling at the same time!

Your support will be **greatly** appreciated.

Any additional questions, call: Mrs. M&M or Ms. FOX 694-4141x307 x341

## YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW!!!

2016 Riverdale Yearbooks are currently on sale right now! Order yours today while they are still available. Only 480 left! Call Mrs. Katie Jones at 239.694.4141 or Email: [KatherinewL@leeschools.net](mailto:KatherinewL@leeschools.net) to get more information or an order form.

Come be a part of the story!



**Culinary Arts**

Do you like to try new and exotic foods? Do you like to meet new friends? Do you want to be a part of the Raider Nation?

The Culinary Arts Club is open to any Riverdale High School student grades 9 -12. You may be an active member of a Culinary Arts class or just have an interest in cuisine.

Our activities focus on lunch and dinner events, club meetings, field trips, college visits, community service, and the RIVERDALE Literacy Festival.

Please stop by Mrs. Spinosa’s room, #01-007, to inquire and join.

We are the “Heartbeat that Rocks the RAIDERS”. Come join your Riverdale Culinary Club.

Please see Mrs. Spinosa for details about our Culinary Club Dinner Events. Upcoming visits will include Fancy’s Southern Café, Kumo’s of Ft. Myers, and Cheddar’s Casual Café. You and a friend may join us for a tasty night out on the town. Other destinations will be announced at upcoming meetings. Please join us! Listen to your school announcements for details or stop by room #01-007 at your convenience for more information.



Reading is a basic tool in the living of a good life.

-Joseph Addison

Why should your child read silently at least 20 minutes each day?

Students who read 20 minutes each day will read 3,600 minutes a school year, 1,800,000 words, and perform better in reading than 90% of students. In contrast students who only read one minute per day will read 180 minutes a school year, 8,000 words, and only perform better in reading than 10% of students. The more students read, the better their vocabulary!

All students who are enrolled in a reading class this semester are using

**Empower 3000 (www.empower3000.com)**, a computer program that can be accessed from any computer, tablet, or Smartphone. Yes, there is an APP! Parents also have access to the program and can monitor their child’s progress! Your child can log on to the program and show you how you can register to have parent access. If you would like additional information, contact Sally Roszell, Reading Coach @ 694-4141, ext. 315.

We currently have five teachers in our reading department this year: Dr. Maday Leon, Mr. Shayne Morin, Ms. Sherree Richards, Ms. Joan Starr, and Ms. Louetta Wilson. Please feel free to contact these teachers or Mrs. Roszell with any questions or concerns with your child’s progress and success!

**OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS**

Florida State Statute 1012.2 recognizes that teachers at times must be assigned duties in a class outside the field in which the teacher is certified. The following teachers at Riverdale High School are certified, but are engaged in training to add English of Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Subject Areas to their certificates:

ESOL

- KeiAnna Bennett
- Sara Crume
- Kyle Dawson
- Kristen Fox
- Katherine Jones
- Caroline Maher
- Jennifer Miller
- Robert Taylor
- Ryan Williams

ENGLISH 6-12

Brittanie Long

Reading

Shayne Morin

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