



Success is a Choice!



A Message from the Principal

Principal's comments:

Wow, we are back for another great year at RHS! I believe this will be an extremely exciting new year. Teachers, staff, and administration 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 being rated one of America's Best High Schools by Newsweek and the Washington Post magazines. These awards represent Riverdale High School as being in the top 10% of all high schools in the USA.

Other achievements were:

National Merit Finalist

District Champs in Wrestling – State placer

All athletic programs over a 3.0 average GPA

Graduation rate above District and State average

State qualifiers in Band, Science Fair, History

FBLA District Chapter of the Year

District Digital Design winner (Photo)

Decreased drop-out rate

Rotary Scholar Athlete of the Year

Hillmyer-Tremont Scholarship Winner

ACT and SAT averages above State average

"Best in Show" – Student Film Festival

Girls Soccer District Champs

ROTC rated with highest distinction

Millions in scholarship awards

3 Odyssey of the Mind teams at State

Cheerleading 3rd in State

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 High School, 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. Teaching and learning is the main things at Riverdale High School. I look forward to a great 2014-2015 school year! "SUCCESS IS A CHOICE"

IT IS A GREAT TIME TO BE A RAIDER!

Gerald Demming

Principal

UPCOMING DATES:

Sept. 9th - Picture Day Underclassman

Sept. 9th - School Advisory Council Meeting

6:30 Media Center

Sept. 13th - ACT Test

Sept. 19th - Interim Report Day

Sept. 23rd - IB Parent Meeting

6:30pm Media Center

Sept. 28th - Riverdale High School

Golf Tournament

8am River Hall Country Club

Oct. 6th-10th - Homecoming Week

Oct. 10th - Homecoming Football Game

and Parade

Oct. 11th - Homecoming Dance

9pm-12pm Raider Rock Gym

Oct. 16th - Picture Retakes for Underclassman

Oct. 21st - IB Parent Meeting

6:30pm Media Center

Oct. 25th - ACT Test 7am

Oct. 31st - Mail out Date For 1st Quarter

Report Card

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 individual 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.

Mission:

Riverdale High School will adapt to the changing face of the community while preparing to meet the needs of a global society. (On website)

SCA BLOOD DRIVES

The Student Council Association, in conjunction with the Lee Memorial Blood Center, will be hosting four blood drives this year. By donating blood, Raider students, staff, faculty, parents, and neighbors are saving lives and earning scholarship money for our seniors. Last year a total of \$6,000 was awarded to seniors who donated blood throughout their high school career. Donors must have prior parent permission, be 16 years of age, and meet the criteria set forth by Lee Memorial. The dates of this year's drives are September 4th and 5th, November 17th and 18th, February 24th and 25th and April 29th and 30th. Please contact Ginger Ribinski at GingerLR@LeeSchools.net if you have any questions or would like to sign up to donate blood. If you are unable to donate blood at these times, you may donate at any of the Lee Memorial Blood Centers, and tell them you would like Riverdale High School to get credit for the donation. We look forward to donating with you!

HOMECOMING 2015 - OCTOBER 6TH THRU 11TH

This year the Riverdale Raiders will be taking on the Labelle Cowboys. Throughout the week there will be a variety of events including the Womanless Beauty Pageant, Powderpuff Football and Cheerleading Competitions pep rally, parade, football game, and dance. Event Passes will be available for \$11. Event Passes allow entry to the pageant, the PP events, and the football game. The dance will be held on Saturday, October 11th. Tickets start at \$15. Students must be debt free in order to purchase a ticket. Homecoming information will be posted to the school website and announced at school, as it becomes available.

RIVERDALE BOYS GOLF

Once again it is time for fall sports and your Raider Boys Golf Team has been at the range, and on the course preparing for a promising year. We have representatives from every class in the school including some excellent freshmen and sophomore golfers. River Hall, our home course, has been generous again this season with the use of the course and a gift of about 200 preowned ProV1 golf balls for the team to use. Few people come to our matches, but everyone is welcome to come out and watch some excellent high school golf. We expect to compete for the district championship and to win LCAC. Check the athletics calendar for our schedule, and come join us at River Hall for a home match. It's a great time to be a Raider!

RIVERDALE BASEBALL

The Raider Baseball Team have begun their fall workouts on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday's in the weight room. If interested in trying out for baseball and participating in fall workouts, see Coach Pringle in room 6 – 24. All athletic paperwork must be in to Mrs. Barry. Baseball tryouts begin January 20, 2015.

ACADEMICS

Riverdale High School promotes a competitive, collaborative learning environment where all students are inspired and motivated to reach their highest potential in a global society. This year's academic initiative is to foster rich discussion and high levels of analytical problem-solving through strong reading and writing skills and mathematical excellence. Our teaching staff is passionate about preparing students for the rigors of post-secondary life and we are excited to help everyone reach their highest individual potential. As you support your student in the challenges of his or her education, we encourage parents to communicate with our friendly, welcoming staff of teachers, guidance counselors, and administrators.



LARGEST BUSINESS CLUB IN FIVE COUNTIES “STEPS UP TO THE CHALLENGE”

Riverdale’s Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) want students to come check us out. Meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month for less than 30 minutes, FBLA officers want students to be aware of the resume’ and college transcript “wow factor” that membership offers.

Expect some positive changes in this year’s FBLA agenda. First, the club point system ensures deserving students will be recognized for their leadership and participation. Members do several fundraisers, some community service, and compete in one of 60 topics. Also, students can earn Business Achievement Awards.

This year’s officers include: Savannah Chrissenberry, Matt Chastain, Deandra Weiner, Luke ChinAFong, Steele Spinosa, Mikayla Ries, Emerson Ingram and Ajay Freeman. Club adviser Ileane Flores, along with Dr. Frank Palaia, provide professional guidance.

FBLA is a national career and technical student organization. It primarily helps students transition into the business world and is the largest student-run business related organization in the world, with more than 250,000 members. Students can join for \$30, which includes a club shirt, and national, state, and district dues. Dues must be paid by Sept. 30 in order for students to compete. Seniors should 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.

This group is open to everyone in the school. Last year’s roster topped 100. Riverdale FBLA is also seeking professional members and business partners. Call Ileane Flores at 694-4141.

The national officer in DC is looking for students to step up to the challenge. Riverdale FBLA embraces that message.

SENIOR TIMELINE

CLASS OF 2015

November through March – Grad Bash Payments will be taken

****Grad Bash Deposits of \$65.00 must be paid by December 19th**

Payment in full by March 2nd \$140.00

September 22, 2014- Senior Portraits must be taken in order to be yearbook

Friday – October 10, 2014 – Homecoming

Saturday –October 11, 2014- Homecoming Dance

Tuesday-November 4, 2014 – Senior Panoramic Picture and Picture on the football field- 7:30 AM

Wednesday- November 5, 2014 – Herff Jones meeting on Caps & Gowns/Graduation Announcements 7:15 AM **Auditorium**

Wednesday- November 5, 2014- Senior Parent meeting 6:00 PM **Auditorium**

Monday-December 15, 2014 – DEADLINE: Ordering Graduation Announcements (Phone-278-4555)

****February 9, 2015 -* Last Chance to Order Cap and Gown**** Prices will go up!

Friday-April 17, 2015- Grad Bash- Universal Studios- 1:00 PM- Report to auditorium

Saturday- May 2, 2015- Prom

Tuesday- May 5, 2014- Senior Meeting- 7:15 AM / Cap and Gown Distribution- **Auditorium**

Tuesday – May 5, 2014– Senior Breakfast/ Yearbook Signing 8:00 AM -**Cafeteria**

Friday, May 8, 2015- Senior Pool Party/Slide Show- 10:45 AM **Auditorium**

Tuesday- May 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 - Senior Exams

Tuesday- May 26, 2015- Senior Awards Night -6:30 PM (Wear Cap and Gown) (Invitation Only Required to Attend) Practice Tuesday May 26th @ 7:30 AM in the **Auditorium**

Thursday-May 28, 2015- Baccalaureate- **Auditorium-** 6:30 PM (All Seniors are welcome- not required- Wear cap and gown)

Friday- May 29, 2015- Graduation Practice 12:00 PM Lee Civic Center- Mandatory for ALL

Graduation-TBA

RAIDER BATTALION JROTC, SY 14 - 15

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 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. The number of students enrolling in JROTC has been increasing each year at Riverdale and throughout the County. We will again have close to 300 cadets enrolled in JROTC this year. Master Sergeant (MSG) Villaverde will be starting his third year of instruction at Riverdale, and he will be instructing the first year JROTC cadets. 1SG Trent will be starting his 21st year at Riverdale, and Major Falck is starting his 20th 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 their uniform on Wednesday, if they have JROTC 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 25 % 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.

This year's Battalion Staff is as follows:

Battalion Commander:	Mr. Thomas Hitchcock
Battalion X.O.:	Mr. Trevor Colanari S-3: Mr. Elijah Salzman
C.S.M.:	Mr. Mathew Bauer S-4: Mr. Josue Ortiz
S-1	Ms. Brianna Piscitelli S-5: Ms. Adilene Aguirre
S-2:	Mr. Emerson Ingram S-6: TBA

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

Nov. 1 - Raider Challenge	Feb. 27 – JROTC Ball
Nov. 7 - Veterans Day Ceremony	Mar. 7 – Lee County Drill Meet
Nov. 11 -Veterans Day Parade	Apr. 23 County Marksmanship
Nov. 6- Pride and Patriotism	Apr. 25 State Marksmanship
Dec. State Raider Challenge	Apr. 4-5 - State Drill Meet
Dec. 8 - 18 - Edison Holiday House	May 7 - County Awards Ceremony
Jan. 29 -UT and UM College Trip	June 8 - Summer Camp

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

This past summer 31 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 20th 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, michaelrt@leeschools.net, ignaciov@leeschools.net

WORLD LANGUAGE

The World Language Department is pleased to welcome two new members: Mrs. Maria Benito and Ms. Judith Cintron. This summer, Mr. Lillard served as an Advanced Placement Spanish Literature Reader for the College Board in Cincinnati, Ohio. Latin Rhythms Club will begin the week of September 1st and hopes to draw a large number of students. Spanish National Honor Society (La Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica) will begin next week and should hold great adventures in store for the 200 plus membership. Mt. Mathew Bourbina reported that the passing rate for IB students in IB Diploma Program has accelerated to a 90% completion rate. The French IB students under the instruction of Madame Fertil also passed at a higher rate than before. The World Language Department is pleased with the data it is generating.

IB

The IB Diploma Program is already looking toward an exciting year with students starting to plan CAS activities and wrapping up old ones. Students will once again be working for our two legacy activities: River Hall Mentors and IB Fighting Hunger. Since the inception of the program, all students have worked to improve literacy, provide mentors, and assists faculty and staff at River Hall Elementary. Our second legacy project involves trying to educate our community about hunger locally, nationally, and globally, and to support the Harry Chapin Food Bank with donations throughout the year. In addition to these activities, IB students are active in many organizations at RHS including the Quilting Bee & Sewing Circle and a new addition: BRAIN BRAWL. The brawl will meet once a month, and students who are interested in the games Jeopardy and Trivial Pursuit will feel right at home. Get involved Riverdale!

RIVERDALE VOLLEYBALL

The Riverdale Volleyball Team is off to another great start. With two pre-season victories under their belts, they have started their quest to the district playoffs. With wins over Pt. Charlotte and Cypress Lake, the Raiders are looking to get started with a very competitive district schedule including State finalist Gulf Coast and Ft. Myers. The Raiders will also travel to Hollywood, Florida to play in the Chaminade-Madonna "Dig for Cancer" Tournament.

Varsity members for the 2014 team include: Abby Mast, Jordan Wheeler, Lovely Malivert, Calina Tyus, Emily Johnston, Cortney Wilson, Hannah Zaleski, Morgan Baldwin, Rachel Bibbey, Kayla McGovern, Kaylee Whiteleather, Kacy Ogden, Nikki Shuman, Jenna Zaleski and Amy Barley.

The remainder of the schedule can be found on the school's website or at Maxpreps.com.

CULINARY ARTS CLUB

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 Relay for Life. 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.

ARTSY NEWS

The Art Department Is In full Swing!!! **SUCCESS IS A CHOICE! IT'S A GREAT TIME TO BE A RAIDER**

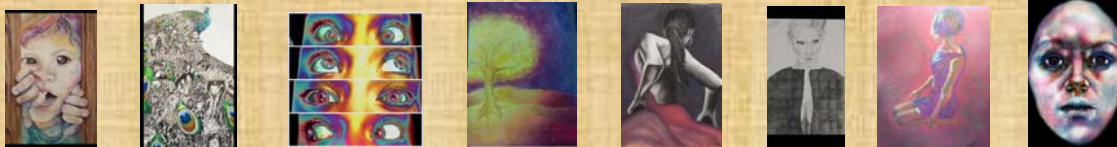
We know, we know, students (and adults) say... "I would take art, but I can't draw!" or "I can only draw a stick figure", or better yet, "I can't even draw a straight line!" We'll we say to you..."What would you try, if you knew you would not fail???" There are many students who have the creative ability and just need help developing the technical and informational skills to become the future artists, graphic designers, cartoonists, game designers, illustrators, interior designers, architects, fashion designers, and much more! This is a chance to set new goals, do greater things, and become a better "you". The arts have been shown to increase test scores, decrease stress, and allow students to become a more rounded and creative individual. This year the Art Dept. will have several art students in the IB Diploma Program. Watch for them closely!!!! There will be an ART CLUB for students to join and experience other mediums that were not experienced before. All art teachers will be involved this year in the Art Club. Come out and join us. We will meet on Mondays, dates and times will be discussed at the first meeting.

ART SHOWS

The Florida State Fair Youth Fine Art Exhibition 2014 will be judged in December in Tampa. There is also a high school "only" art show at Centennial Park in early February called Art Fest Fort Myers "Under 20". There is an art show at The Southwest Florida and Lee County Fair sometime between February – March, 2014 which Riverdale will participating. The big High School Juried Art Show will be in April, 2014. Please come out and support our "budding artists". If you can't make it to the shows, there is always student art displayed by the main office and art rooms. Come and see us anytime. This year the Art Department has 14 computers to be used for graphic arts. All have Adobe Photoshop cs6 installed on them. They are all networked and used by students' in the Art Department. Contact #'s 694-4141 ext. 251 Mr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Eby, or Mr. Johnson

Each art class, at this time, is Requesting a \$20.00 donation per semester. Any amount is acceptable Please help support the Art Department. The money goes directly back to your child in the form of art supplies and photography/art field trips.

Some examples of last year's art from seniors:



RAIDER SWIMMING

The Raider Swim Team is looking forward to an exciting year. We invite you to join us Tuesdays and Thursdays at the pool to cheer our swimmers on to great times. The swim schedule will be posted on the RHS website. The First Annual Alumni Swim Meet will be held on Saturday, September 13th at 10:00 AM followed by a Bar-B-Que. If you are an RHS Alumni swimmer and would like to participate, please contact Coach Ribinski at GingerLR@LeeSchools.Net. You may purchase a bar-b-que from any swimmer, Coach Barry, or Coach Ribinski.



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) to their certificates:

ESOL

Kei Anna (Bennett) Wolff

Dawn Cioffoletti

Sarah Crume

Kyle Dawson

Stacey Gridley

Katherine Jones

Caroline Maher

Jennifer Miller

Shayne Morin

Robert Taylor

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION AND LABELS FOR EDUCATION

A school fund-raiser that won't cost you anything! The Life Skills Class at

Riverdale High School is collecting "Box Tops for Education" and "Labels for Education" from food products you may already be purchasing. All you have to do is CUT, CLIP, SAVE, and send them to RHS, Mrs. M&M Room 8-03. You will recognize the sponsors for "Labels for Education": Glad, Dannon, Campbell's, Goldfish, Pepperidge Farms, Bic, Prego, and V8 just to name a few. "Box Tops for Education" sponsors including Betty Crocker, Bisquick, Nestle, Pillsbury, Yoplait, Old El Paso, Ziplock, Hanes, Kleenex, Scott, Hefty, and Chex Mix to name a few. CUT, CLIP, SAVE, and send the labels in. The labels are counted, submitted, and recorded for points and cash. The students will be able to track, graph, monitor, bundle, and mail the labels as a yearly math-vocational project. The labels are transferred into points, rewards, and cash that can be applied to purchase school supplies or classroom items. So, don't throw those box packages away without first checking for these labels!!! Your support will be greatly appreciated. Any additional questions, call: Mrs. M&M 694-4141x307 or Ms. Fox 694-4141x341

CUT – CLIP – SAVE



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LADY RAIDER BASKETBALL

Tryouts for the 2014-15 Lady Raider Basketball Teams are right around the corner! Girls wishing to tryout must have their athletic paperwork (including their physical) turned into the Athletic Office by October 17th. Tryouts will be held on October 20th, 21st, & 22nd in the gym. The Lady Raiders will open their 2014-15 season hosting the Lady Raider Preseason Classic on November 4th & 6th. We hope to see you at the game!!



RHS BOWLING



And That's How We Roll...The 2014 Bowling Team is ready for a great season! Our girls' team has 7 strong bowlers! Four are seniors and will strike often! Bowlers are Lindsey Conwell, Bethany Copeland, Tristen Lee, Lisa Purnell, Kaitlin Rogers, Kristin Rogers, and Sierra Wotring! The boys' team finished fourth in our county last year and should be a top three finisher this year. Andrew Muckenstrum and Jacob Layton return as senior leaders with Nate Thomas, Kennedy Eleaby, Anthony Donato, Conor Magee, Blane Reis, Kevin Cimba, and Billy Genevrino rounding out the roster! We are excited about having a successful season! Come out and watch us Roll!

ARE YOU A JUNIOR OR SENIOR?

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RIGHT COLLEGE FOR YOU?

PLAN ON ATTENDING COLLEGE NIGHT 2014!



VISIT WITH OVER 100 COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND ACADEMIES

"IN ONE NIGHT"

September 23, 2014

6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

The Harborside Event Center

1375 Monroe Street

Fort Myers



RHS FOOTBALL



Who is ready for some football??? The start of a new school year also rings in the start of a new football season. After a great summer in our newly expanded weight room, the players are excited to hit the field for what should be a great 2014-2015 campaign. We have some big home games against South Ft Myers, Dunbar and defending district champions, Port Charlotte, as well as tough road games against Island Coast and perennial district rivals Charlotte and the Ft Myers Green Wave. The regular season culminates as it always does for the Battle for the Bell versus Lehigh. This year we travel to our neighbors to the south in what should be another great game. The coaching staff is looking for our seniors to lead and the underclassmen to step up. The team had a great camp and now it's time to put the uniforms on, blow up the tunnel and fire up the cannon and turn the lights on because it's GAME TIME!!! Please come out and support all of our teams. See you UNDER THE LIGHTS!!!

Coach Jones

Head Football Coach