

WELCOME TO



**RICHARDS
MIDDLE SCHOOL**



Home of the Titans!
Principal – Mark McCain

Assistant Principals

6th Grade - Dr. LaTasha M. Cook

7th Grade – Yvonne Jordan

8th Grade – Patrick Mугan

Special Education –Venita Ogletree

MLL & Testing – Jane Davis

Celeste Lizama

Title I & Connections – Felisha Caldwell



Welcome Rising Titans!

Mark McCain

Principal

(770) 995-7133

Mark.McCain@gcpsk12.org



Welcome Rising Titans!

Dr. LaTasha M. Cook

6th Grade Assistant Principal

(770) 995-7133

LaTasha.Cook@gcpsk12.org

WELCOME TO



RICHARDS
MIDDLE SCHOOL



The Middle School Years

(3) short years **Different School Hours**
Time flies **Teams of Teachers** **New Friends**
Weekly Advisement **New Friend Dynamics**
Titan Time/CQI **More Clubs**
Connections (*formerly called Specials*)
INTRAMURAL SPORTS
AND MUCH MORE.



Richards Middle School: Rising 6th Graders

- RMS Welcome Videos
- Connections Course Descriptions
 - *In elementary school, these are referred to as "Specials"*
- School Supply Information
- Student Clubs & Activities
- The ABCs of RMS (*electronic 6th Grade Student Handbook*) with information on:
 - Attendance
 - Behavior Expectations
 - Dress Code
 - GCPS Promotion Criteria
 - School History
 - Tips for parents for how to stay informed.
 - And much, much more!
- A copy of this PowerPoint Presentation 😊





Built In Support

Titan Time <i>Continuous Quality Instruction (CQI)</i>	Mondays - Thursdays @ 9:30-10:00am This time is used for academic remediation and enrichment.
Weekly Tutoring Sessions	Wednesdays & Thursdays @ 8:15am (LA/SC; MA/SS)
Weekly Advisement Lessons	Mondays @ 9:30am This time is used to develop and reinforce Social Emotional Learning, as well as other character traits necessary for academic, personal/social, and career success for all RMS students.

RMS is a PBIS school

Schoolwide PBIS is a broad range of systematic and individualized strategies for achieving important social and learning outcomes while preventing problem behaviors with all students.





**How can
students &
families get
involved at
Richards MS?**

**How do we
support our
diverse population
of students
at Richards MS?**



Tonight's Program

I. The Importance of Getting Involved

How can students & families get involved at Richards MS?

II. Supporting Our Students

How do we support our diverse population of students at Richards MS?

III. The Middle School Experience: Students' Perspectives

Closing Remarks



The Importance of Getting Involved

- ❖ **RMS Parent Center**
*Kristina Fuller
Parent Outreach Liaison*
- ❖ **Rising Titans Academy**
*A'Maya Rhodes,
6th Grade Teacher Sponsor*
- ❖ **Music Department**
*Ansley Cook, Alex Diaz &
Dr. Heston McCranie,
Teacher Sponsors*
- ❖ **Science & Robotics Clubs**
*Emily Smith, Kelly Chupurdy &
Carissa Shuman, Teacher Sponsors*
- ❖ **Student Council**
*Stefanie Livingston
Teacher Sponsor*
- ❖ **Step Team**
*Hali Sorrells
Teacher Sponsor*
- ❖ **"La Book Chica"**
*Grisel McDuffie
Media Specialist*



Supporting Our Students

- ❖ **Multi-Lingual Learner Support**
- ❖ **Spanish for Native Speakers**
- ❖ **Counseling Support**
- ❖ **Mentoring Programs**

The Middle School Experience: Students' Perspective

- ❖ **Closing Remarks**

Celeste Lizama
Assistant Principal

Liz Martinez
Teacher Sponsor

Rosemary Dixon
6th Grade Counselor

Jamael McCauley
Teacher Sponsor

Christian Jimenez & Bliss Osenge

Dr. LaTasha M. Cook
6th Grade Assistant Principal



Kristina Fuller
Parent Outreach Liaison
RMS Parent Center

Phone: (770) 338-4815

Email: Kristina.Fuller@gcpsk12.org

Parent Outreach Liaisons serve to bridge the gap between families and the school community by providing communication, outreach, resources, and training. These efforts aim to enhance parent engagement in their children's education through culturally relevant celebrations, fine arts events, athletic activities, and parent informational and feedback meetings.



The Importance of Early Literacy

Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) is actively working to increase awareness among families and staff about the importance of literacy, supporting opportunities to...



[Learn more about understanding reading](#)

To Access your ParentVUE Account

You already have a ParentVUE account (even if you do not currently have an active student)

- If you registered the student and created an account during registration but have not yet accessed ParentVUE.
- If you previously had an account for another child.
- If you previously had an account for this child.

1. Enter your **username** and **password**.
2. Click **Login**.
3. If you do not remember your password, click **Forgot Password** to reset your password. You will need access to your email account to reset your password. Follow the link in your email to reset your password.

Online Registration Account Access

Login

Gwinnett County Public Schools

User Name:

Password:

[Forgot Password](#)

Login

[More Options](#) ▲



[Create a New Account](#)

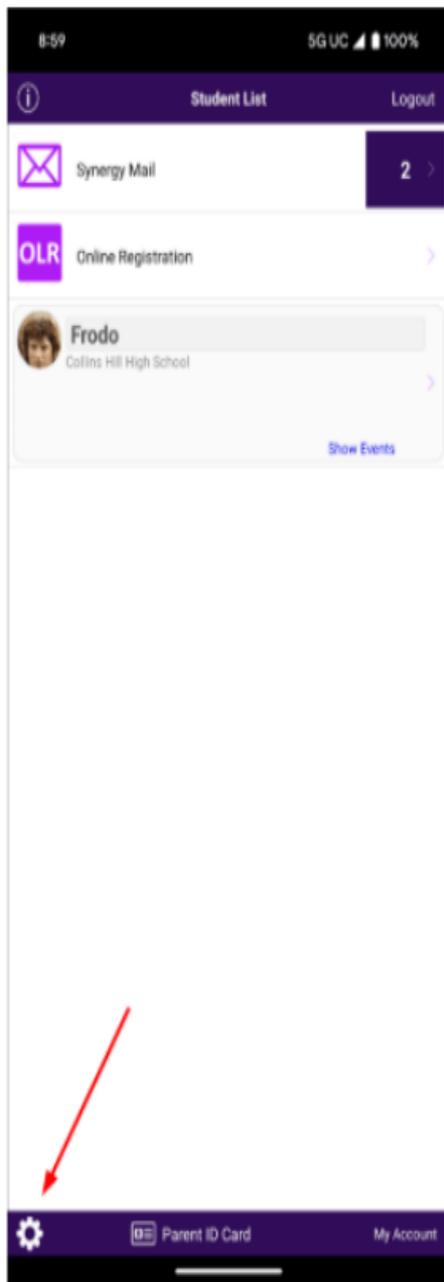


[Forgot Password](#)

Student Name
Richards Middle School
Student Phone Number
Student ID#

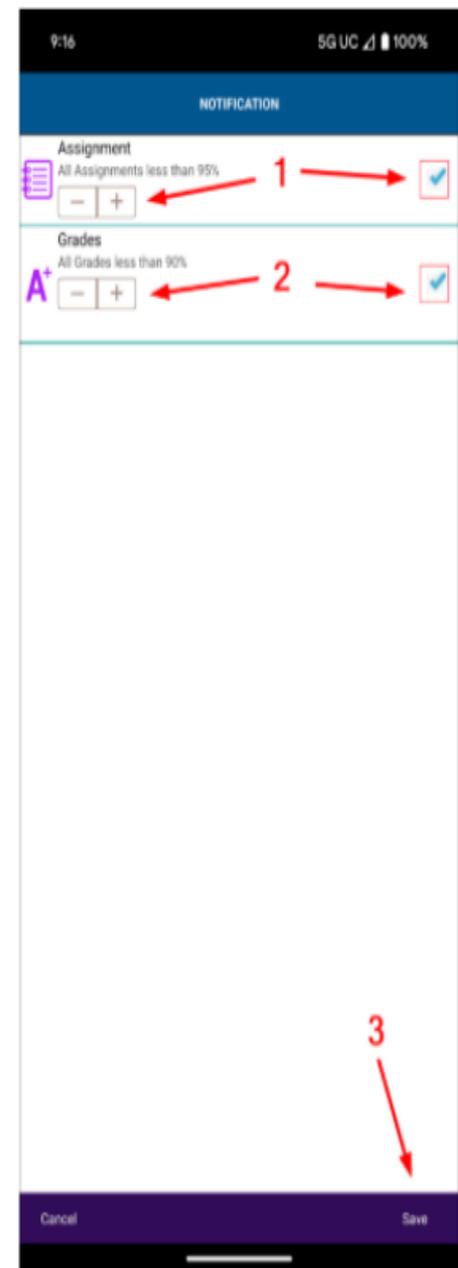
ParentVUE

 Attendance	 Calendar	 Course History	 Course Request	 Current Schedule
 Discipline	 Documents	 Fees	 Grade Book	 Health
 Messages	 MTSS	 Online Registration	 Student Information	
				



To enable mobile grade notifications, tap on the gear in the bottom left of the App Home Screen. (Note: Grade Notifications are sent at 5:30 pm nightly.)

1. Tap the checkbox to enable notifications for any new Assignment grade. You can set a threshold to only receive notifications for assignment grades below a set score/grade.
2. Tap the checkbox to enable notifications for any new class Grade/Average. You can set a threshold to only receive notifications for class averages below a set score/grade.
3. Tap Save to return to the App Home Screen.



ParentSquare vs. ParentVUE

ParentVUE and ParentSquare are tools we encourage you to use to support your student's learning. Think of ParentVUE as a tool you use to view and update student records. Think of ParentSquare as the place you go to engage with teachers and staff.



ParentSquare

In ParentSquare you can connect with teachers and school staff:

- Send and receive messages from the school via email, text, or mobile app.
- Communicate in your preferred language.
- Direct message teachers, staff, and principals.
- Share pictures and files.
- See calendar items.
- Participate in group messages.



In ParentVUE you view enrollment records and progress:

- See attendance records.
- Review academic progress and grades.
- Check class schedules and course history.
- See graduation requirements and status.
- Translate information into your preferred language.
- See records for all your children at any GCPS school with a single login.

Keep Your Contact Information Up to Date

It is important your contact information is up to date with your school. Both ParentSquare and ParentVUE rely on your up-to-date contact information. Need to update? Please contact your school.

ParentSquare automatically generates an account for each parent/guardian using their preferred email address and phone number listed in ParentVUE. We recommend reviewing your contact information annually.





ParentVUE



ParentVUE





A'Maya Rhodes 6th Grade Teacher Sponsor

**RIISING
TITANS
ACADEMY**



The Rising Titans Academy

Students will -

- spend **3** interactive and fun-filled days as **RISING 6th GRADERS** 😊.
- actively participate in activities that turn learning into **FUN!**
- become familiar with our school building and our academic & behavior expectations.
- build new friendships.
- reduce their fears & anxieties about starting middle school.



Rising Titans Academy

Dates: July 7th, 8th, & 9th from 9am – 4pm

Please register for the
Rising Titans Academy at
www.mypaymentsplus.com.

The cost is \$25 & includes a RICHARDS MS T-shirt.

**HOWEVER, if you register TODAY,
the cost is only \$20 😊.**

Space is limited.

Brochures available



Ansley Cook, Alex Diaz & Dr. Heston McCranie

RMS Music Department Teacher Sponsors





Stefanie Livingston

Student Council Teacher Sponsor



Student Council

Ideas + Work = Change

We need motivated student leaders who not only have innovative ideas but have the ambition to put the work behind those ideas to come to fruition

Changing the School Culture

Student council is an amazing club for students to be in charge of how their school culture flourishes

Student Leaders

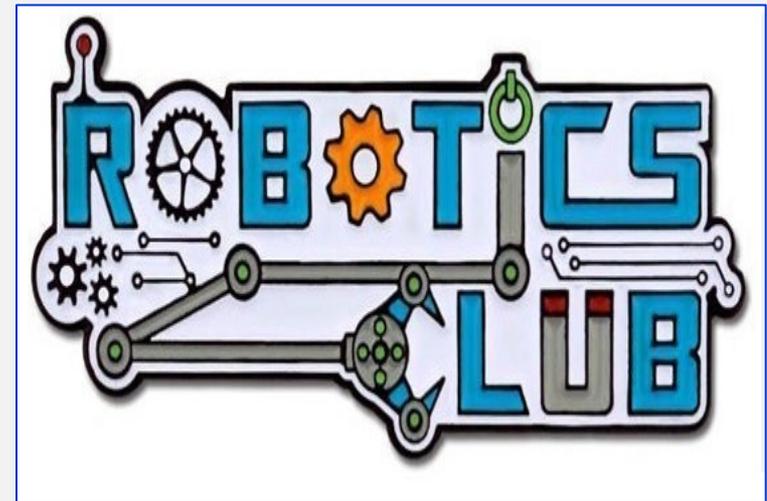
It's possible to be in more than one club, sport, organization! We have plenty of officers who are either sports players or apart of other organizations.

REMEMBER: RICHARDS MIDDLE SCHOOL IS YOUR SCHOOL

THIS ORGANIZATION ALLOWS YOU FOR TO CHANGE HOW YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARS PLAY OUT. REAL CHANGE CAN HAPPEN TO THE CULTURE HERE, BUT IT'S UP TO YOU TO!



Emily Smith, Kelly Chupurdy & Carissa Shuman Teacher Sponsors Science & Robotics Clubs



Science Club

A chance to explore hands-on science beyond the regular classroom experience

- Bottle Rockets
- STEM Challenges
- Tie-Dye T-Shirts
- Handmade Ice Cream



Robotics Competition Team

New challenge each year

Building, Programming,
Marketing, etc

Compete with MS &
HS from across the
State

Made it to State
Competition last year!



Robotics Competition Team

If you're interested, scan the QR code! We will host a Zoom meeting with more information!



Hali Sorrells

Step Team

Teacher Sponsor





RICHARDS'

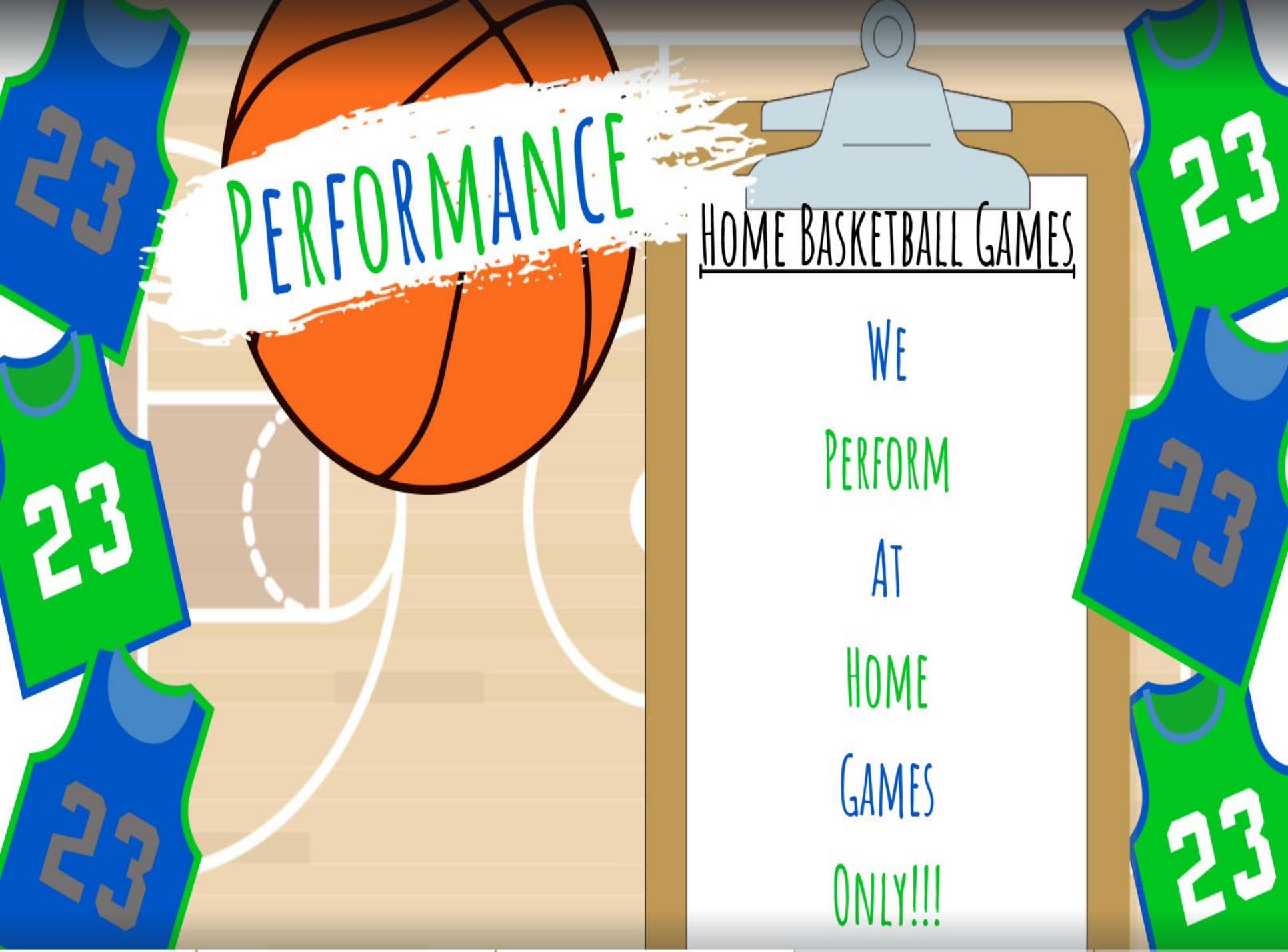
TITAN STOMPERS

COACH SORRELLS & COACH COLLAZO



ABOUT THE TEAM



The background features a basketball court with a wooden floor and white lines. A basketball is positioned in the upper center. On the left and right sides, there are several basketball jerseys hanging vertically. The jerseys alternate in color between blue and green, each with the number '23' on it. A white brushstroke graphic is behind the word 'PERFORMANCE'.

PERFORMANCE

A silver metal clip is attached to the top of a clipboard. The clipboard is white and has the text 'HOME BASKETBALL GAMES' written on it in a black, hand-drawn font.

HOME BASKETBALL GAMES

WE

PERFORM

AT

HOME

GAMES

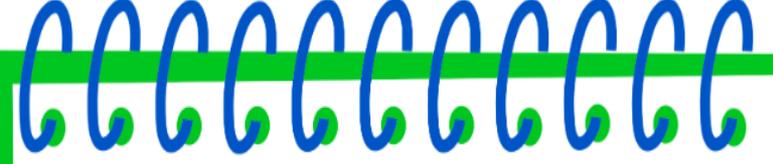
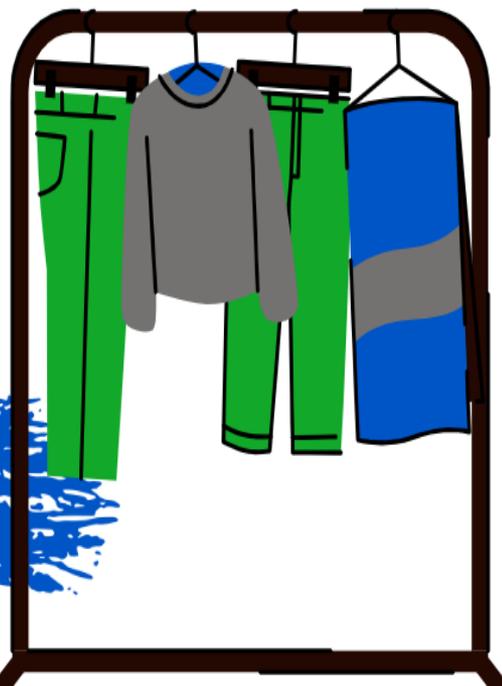
ONLY!!!



PRICE
BREAKDOWN



\$300 TOTAL



- TITAN STOMPER T-SHIRT: \$40 FOR 3X OR LARGER
- TITAN STOMPER PANTS: \$35
- TEAM JACKET: \$75, EXTRA \$3 FOR 3X OR LARGER
- TEAM PANTS: \$65, EXTRA \$3 FOR 3X
- NAME CUSTOMIZATIONS: \$4-\$7
- FOOD FOR 7 GAMES, TAX, SHIPPING & HANDLING: REMAINING \$\$\$



Grisel McDuffie

a.k.a.

"La Book Chica"

**Media Specialist &
Readers' Rally Sponsor**





Celeste Lizama
Assistant Principal
Supporting Our Diverse Learners





How do we support Multilingual Learners at RMS?



**Teacher
&
Student
Collaboration**

**Instructional
Conversations**

**Language
and
Literacy
Development**

**Connecting
Background
Knowledge**

**Academically
Challenging
Environment**

Certified ESOL
Teachers
Newcomer ESOL
Teams
Teacher Read-Alouds
Shared Reading

Guided Practice
(I Do, We Do, You Do)
Small Group Collaboration
Think-Write-Pair-Share

Imagine Learning
Word-to-Word Dictionaries
Translator Devices
Translated Documents
Google Translate

Visual
Connections
Anchor Charts
Concept Maps
Story Maps
Word Banks

Rubrics
Sentence Starters
Graphic Organizers
Hands-On Experiences

English Language Proficiency Testing (ACCESS)



Celeste Lizama, Assistant Principal, ESOL & Multilingual Learner Support



Liz Martinez
Teacher Sponsor
Spanish for Native Speakers



ABRIENDO OPORTUNIDADES

Spanish for Native Speakers Course

Habilidades en Español

Muchos niños crecen hablando español, pero no siempre tienen la oportunidad de perfeccionar su lectura, escritura y gramática.



01

02



Conexión con su Cultura

El idioma es mucho más que palabras lleva consigo la historia, las tradiciones y los valores de una comunidad. En esta clase, los estudiantes explorarán literatura, música, historia y costumbres de diversos países hispanohablantes.

Ser Bilingües

Muchas carreras buscan activamente profesionales bilingües, y este curso es un gran paso en esa dirección.



03

04



Creditos de Preparatoria

Uno de los mayores beneficios de este curso es que los estudiantes pueden ganar créditos de escuela secundaria mientras aún están en la escuela intermedia.

¿LE INTERESA INSCRIBIR A SU ESTUDIANTE EN NUESTRO CURSO DE ESPAÑOL PARA HABLANTES NATIVOS? ESCANEE EL CÓDIGO QR PARA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN Y REGISTRARSE!





The Middle School Experience: From Our Counselors' Perspectives

Rosemary Dixon

6th Grade Counselor



Counselors work with students to help remove barriers to learning

Middle School Counseling

- ❖ Counselors visit classes in August for Introductions
- ❖ Counselors work with students:
 - Individually
 - In small groups
 - Through classroom lessons
- ❖ Accessing your counselor:
 - Student can request on their own
 - Teacher referrals
 - Parent requests





Social-Emotional Learning: (SEL) at RMS

Common 6th Grade SEL Needs:

- Managing Emotions
- Making Decisions
- Managing Peer Relationships
- Managing Technology and Social Media Use





The Middle School Experience: From Students' Perspectives

RMS 8th Grade Mentee
Christian Jimenez





The Middle School Experience: From Students' Perspectives

RMS 8th Grade Peer Leader
Bliss Osenge





Closing Remarks

Dr. LaTasha M. Cook

6th Grade Assistant Principal

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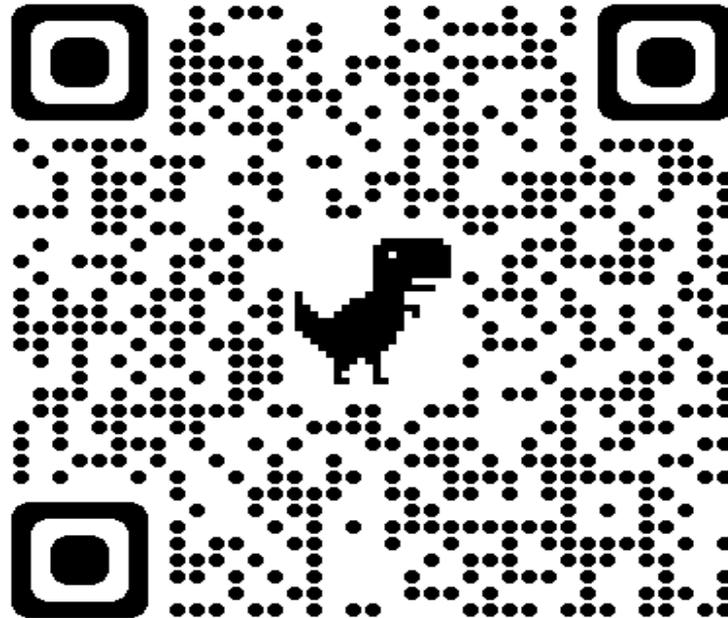
Additional Sign Ups

- Music Sign Up
- Robotics Club
- Spanish for Native Speakers
- Volleyball
- Please access this presentation to revisit the QR codes





Before you leave, please be sure that you have signed in and use the QR code below to give feedback on tonight's presentation.





Thank you for being here tonight.

***We look forward to a great
journey...TOGETHER!***

Good Night 😊

