



Randall Middle School

16510 FishHawk Blvd.

Lithia, FL 33547

(813)740-3900

<http://randall.mysdhc.org/>

AUGUST 2020

“The key to success is to focus on goals, not obstacles.”

Welcome Back Hawks!



Welcome back to school! For our new Hawks...Welcome to Randall!

We are excited to meet our newest Hawks. We have over 400 rising 6th graders joining us this year and many new students who have moved to the area this summer. We welcome back our 7th and 8th grade Hawks who will provide examples of kindness and academic success to our younger students.

The last few months have been very challenging; however, our families, our staff and our students have pulled together and risen to success as a community

Randall will take extra measures to ensure the health and safety of our students.

We will be reorganizing student passing time routes; we have purchased new outside tables for distancing; we will wipe down desks and frequently “touched” items between classes. Our nurses will have an established protocol for dealing with sick students, keeping them separate from those who are in the clinic for medications.

We will be addressing other issues and concerns in the weeks ahead.

Thank you for your support!

With Hawk Pride,
Claire Mawhinney, Principal

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday
	8/4 Open House	8/5 RMS Sports Meeting		
8/10 First Day of School				

Important Links

Hillsborough County Public Schools

<http://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/>

Randall PTSA

<http://www.randallptsa.org>

Randall Twitter

@HCPSPRandallMS

There are Randall grade level Facebook pages that are established and monitored by parent volunteers. Note: they are not “official” school FB pages monitored by Administration.

School Arrival and Release

- School begins at 9:25 a.m. everyday. Students may enter the campus at 9:00 a.m. There is no student supervision prior to 9:00 a.m. (With the exception of Host) The front office opens at 8:30 a.m. and closes at 4:45 p.m.
- School release is 4:20 p.m.
- Most Mondays are Early Release with student release at 3:20 p.m. (Check school calendar)
- It is very important that students are present and arrive on time each day. It is an important school and life habit for students to learn.
- In event of bad weather, we hold the attendance bell to allow students to safely arrive on campus and get to their first period class.
- **Bike riders or walkers must be signed out by a parent in the front office if they are checking out early. They must be accompanied off campus by their parent or guardian.**

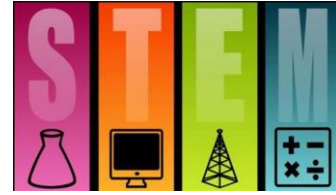
Special 6th Grade Information

We make special efforts to ease our 6th graders' transition into middle school.

Special information for our 6th grade parents:

1. Students may rent lockers for \$5. They will visit lockers at established times with teacher assistance. Hall lockers are not required.
2. Students dress out for P.E. and will need to rent a P.E. locker for \$5 to secure items in the locker room.
Please review with your child how to use a combination lock.
3. 6th graders eat lunch at separate times from 7th and 8th graders. They sit with their 2nd period class at an assigned table during lunch.
4. 6th graders wait for the morning bell in a separate location (along the 100 and 500 hallways) from 7th and 8th graders.
5. Please make sure your 6th grader knows his/her address and student id number. The agenda planner (on sale at Open House) is a great place to write down important information.

We love our 6th grade Hawks!



STEM Club

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

STEM Club is an organization of exciting activities at Randall that offer students in grades 6 through 8 the opportunity to accelerate their learning with exposure to science, technology and math through hands-on activities that challenge students to work to their highest potential. Activities include Bridge Building, Math League, Legos, Robotics, Coding and other activities. There will be a STEM parent meeting coming soon.

Watch for STEM information in parent emails.

For more information contact STEM Team Leader, Dr. Pat Sanders at patricia.sanders@sdhc.k12.fl.us

What Clubs Can I Join At Randall?

There will be club exhibits in the Media Center during Open House on Wednesday, August 7th.

How can I get involved as a parent at Randall?

Contact

PTSA President—Jennifer Collis

School Advisory Council (SAC) Chairperson—
Brittany Carrillo

Bike Rider and Walker Safety

Deputy Maury, RMS Resource Deputy, is reminding students that you must **have a lock and wear a bike helmet**. There are designated bike parking areas on either side of the school. **We recommend that students make at least one “practice run” for walking/riding bikes to school prior to August 10th**. The Sheriff's Office plans to post Crossing Guards in front of RMS at both intersections. Please remind your children to be respectful and follow their directions. Open House on August 4th is an ideal time to practice walking or riding a bike to school as a family.



Support for Military Families

At Randall, we realize there are many special needs that families face when a parent(s) serves in the military. If you have concerns regarding your child's adjustment to these challenges, please contact your child's School Counselor. Also, we are privileged to have a Family and Military Life Counselor with us to help with the specific needs of military families. We will be sending home more information and permission to meet forms upon request.

Bus Rider Instructions

The bus ramp is located on the side by Newsome High School. Buses park in designated spots for pick up. If a substitute bus is used, we inform students by announcement. If a bus is late, we supervise students on the ramp until all have been picked up.

When students arrive in the morning on the bus, they will go directly into the cafeteria for free breakfast. Students go directly to their grade level's designated area after breakfast or when they arrive.

We are always available to help students locate their buses.

Bus safety is extremely important. If your child misbehaves on the bus, you will be contacted. They will jeopardize their bus privileges if they continue to act inappropriately on the bus.

The school district will notify students of their bus assignment and stop the week that school begins. We do not receive this information in advance.

Also, students MUST always ride their assigned bus.



Virtual Student Early Pick-up

All virtual students will be issued a special hang tag to indicate priority pick up before 7th period (2:38 most Mondays; 3:28 p.m. Tues.-Fri.). This tag must be displayed when picking students up early.



Dos and Don'ts for Car Rider Drop Off/Pick Up in the front loop at Randall:

***Please display your child's name in the front window. We will announce names on a PA system. It moves much more quickly when you have the name displayed.**

***All parents/guardians who are arriving early for regular pick up time of 4:20 must pull to the side on the grass on the front loop and allow virtual pick up.**

Do pull all the way up to the front of the loop for drop off and pick up. It allows us to move cars more quickly.

Do drive courteously when merging in the front loop.

Do NOT drop off your child in the front loop area requiring them to cross traffic. The painted crosswalk is not for student drop off.

Do NOT park in the front grass to enter the school during drop off or pick up times.

Do NOT drop your child off and drive across the grass to avoid waiting in the car line.

Do NOT park in our staff parking lot or bus ramp area for drop off or pick up.

Do NOT drop off students prior to 8:55 a.m.

The best tip for drop off in the morning is to allow plenty of time for traffic. The line will become more congested at 9:15 a.m.

Randall offers HOST supervision before and after school for students who need supervision prior to 9:00 a.m. or after school. (HOST drop off and pick up is the bus ramp.)

PLEASE make sure to communicate between family members and your child regarding their form of transportation each day.

Thank you! Safety is our first priority during student drop off and pick up.



Randall Athletics

Randall Middle School offers extramural athletic participation during the school year.

The first semester includes boys and girls basketball, boys and girls volleyball, and track take place in the first semester. Second semester will include boys and girls soccer followed by boys and girls flag football.

In order to try out for any of the teams, District athletic forms and video trainings must be completed. Visit <https://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/doc/list/athletics/student-forms/39-285/>

New this year: athletic paperwork will be uploaded online by the student's parent/guardian. Directions for uploading these documents online will be sent out in two weeks.

A parent meeting for boys and girls interested in trying out for basketball, volleyball and/or track is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 5th at 4:00 p.m. in the RMS student cafeteria.**

Before or After School Program HOST

Randall offers HOST before (7:00 a.m.) or after school (until 6:00 p.m.). Students will report to **classroom #126** for HOST.

To register, please visit the District website. Go to Families drop-down menu, then the last item is Before/After School Care. You will fill out an application online.

*Before school weekly fee--\$15
After school weekly fee--\$27*

Randall Resource List

Principal

Ms. Claire Mawhinney, Ext. 222

Principal's Secretary

Ms. Tammie Ferger, Ext. 261

Assistant Principals

Mr. Colin Gerding, Ext. 226
6th Grade AP

Ms. Rebecca Smith, Ext. 238
7th Grade AP

Mr. Michael Oliver, Ext. 227
8th Grade AP

School Resource Officer

Deputy Gary Maury, Ext. 237

Student Affairs Clerical Staff

Ms. Beth Grossman, Ext. 225
Ms. Kelly Portuguese, Ext. 239

Data Processor

Ms. Marja Philpott, Ext. 228

School Counselors

Mr. Joseph Sandfrey, Ext. 233
6th Grade

Ms. Val Richards, Ext. 231
7th Grade

Vacancy, Ext. 255
8th Grade

School Nurses

Nurse Sara Huffman & Nurse Nicole Hester,
Ext. 232 or 253

School Psychologist

Social Worker

Ms. Julie Thomas, Ext. 236

Attendance/Counselor Secretary

Ms. Sabrina Lopez, Ext. 224

Technology Resource

Mr. Bob Windheuser, Ext. 243

Media Specialist

Ms. Cynde Hardy, Ext. 240

Cafeteria Manager

Ms. Cheryl Granville, Ext. 252



Hallway Lockers

Students in all grades 6-8 may rent a hall locker this year for \$5 (Locker monies are used to refurbish the locks that are built into the locker as needed.). 6th graders will receive assistance with locks the first days of school. 7th and 8th graders may visit lockers as needed between classes. Lockers will be issued in homeroom on Tuesday, August 13th. It is not required to rent a locker.

Dressing Appropriately for Middle School



We ask that parents work with us to ensure that clothing is appropriate for middle school students. Girls: "yoga pants" or leggings should include a shirt that fully covers their backside for school appropriateness, skirts or shorts should be no shorter than finger-tip length, girls should not wear short "running" shorts to school and holes or rips in pants should not show skin in the thigh or abdominal areas. No cut off tops revealing the stomach. No spaghetti strap or off-the-shoulder shirts. Boys: pants must not be loose enough to show their underwear, their shirts must have sleeves and shirts may not have inappropriate graphics or messages for school. Hats are not allowed unless required for health reasons and a doctor's note is on file with the school. No mouse ears, unicorn horns or other large, decorative headbands please. No bedroom shoes or pajama pants. There are exceptions made on the appropriate "Spirit Days!"



Student Use of Digital Devices at Randall BYOD—Bring your own device

As you know digital devices such as smartphones, tablets and laptops have changed the world in many ways. These devices allow students to research topics and explore information sources making learning more engaging and meaningful. Some of your child's teachers may allow their students to use digital devices in their classrooms for educational purposes. Digital devices are not required at Randall, and students will not be penalized in any way for not having a device. At Open House, teachers will share their classroom expectations for the use of digital devices.

Cyberbullying and Mean Behavior with Digital Devices

Middle school is often when parents begin to decide whether their child should have an account on social media. We encourage you to have plenty of conversations with other parents and with your children when making this decision. Most often cyberbullying or mean digital behavior begins outside of school and carries over into school where the students know each other and interact.

You can help us by

1. Monitoring your child's electronic use at home.
2. Modeling civility on social media sites.

Parents of high school age students will tell you that kids grow up quickly once introduced to social media. The best safeguard is to maintain an open line of communication with them about social media as they transition to their teenage years.

Nurse Sara Huffman and Nurse Nicole Hester

Very important change of dates for parents needing to drop-off items in our clinic and speak with our nurses before school starts: If you need to bring in medicine, physician's paperwork or speak to one of our nurses, the District has scheduled training sessions for them next week--so **they will NOT be available next week as stated on the Opening Newsletter sent last week.** Also, they will not be at Open House.

The dates/times our nurses will be available will be sent to parents the week of July 20th.