

R. B. STEWART MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Bulldog Bark!

2013 Summer Edition - Volume One

Shae L. Davis
Principal

Laurie Johnson
Assistant Principal

Shalonda Brooks
Assistant Principal

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Bulldog Parents and Students,

I would like to welcome you to the 2013 - 2014 school year. The teachers and support staff have worked tirelessly to prepare for our school opening and are excited about meeting their new students.

Our campus will be "Under Construction" for the 2013-2014 school year. We will be building a new gymnasium that is expected to be completed by May of 2014. That will mean some minor inconveniences from time to time, but in the end, it will be worth the "added dust" and rerouting of traffic and parking.

As educators, we know that children flourish in an environment of high expectations and we will strive to achieve the standards of excellence our district and school has set.

Stewart Middle School teachers and administration welcome your participation in your child's education and we know that without your support, our jobs would be much more difficult. When we work together, we instill pride and excellence in our students. I believe the 2013 - 2014 school year will be our best ever.

Please feel free to contact me for your needs as well. I am truly looking forward to another year as we build our school together.

Shae Davis
RBSMS Principal

DISTRICT-WIDE SECONDARY REGISTRATION DAY Tuesday, August 13 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Registration will be in our cafeteria. At that time, you will be able to pick up your child's class schedule, pay school fees, complete emergency card information, complete free and reduced meal price forms and have your questions answered.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be parking in the PE field located on 11th Avenue. (back side of school near bus loop) Please use this area to minimize parking on the streets surrounding the school. (see webpage for Map)

OPEN HOUSE

RBSMS will hold its Open House for 6th Grade on Tuesday, August 27, and our 7th/8th Grade Open House will be scheduled on Thursday, August 29. Parents should report to the cafeteria at 6:30 for a welcome from the administration. The format will be an abbreviated bell schedule where you will follow your child's schedule. Teachers will briefly explain the content of each course and tell you their requirements and expectations of students. You will be free to ask questions at the end of each period. The program will be over by 8:00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be parking in the PE field located on 11th Avenue. (back side of school near bus loop) Please use this area to minimize parking on the streets surrounding the school. (see webpage for map)

7th/8th GRADE ATHLETES

All athletes are required to have a completed and notarized parent permission form, physical examination form, and a copy of a birth certificate prior to participation in any athletic activity. Students must have a minimum grade point average of 2.0 with no more than one failing grade for the past semester to be eligible for athletic participation. Our Athletic Director, Deborah Stacey will be available to answer questions you may have.

RBSMS SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

- a supply of #2 pencils
- a plastic pencil bag
- colored pencils
- blue or black ink pens
- large glue stick
- 3x5 ruled index cards
- three-ring notebook paper
- ruler (metric/standard)
- graph paper 1/4" (no green scientific graph paper)
- highlighters
- small pair of scissors
- notebook dividers
- one pocket folder
- handheld pencil sharpener
- composition book

Seventh and Eighth Grade Only:

- handheld calculator with sq. foot and (* / key)
- protractor

Notebooks:

Individual Teachers will give students specific notebook requirements on the first day of class.

****ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES MAY BE REQUIRED BY YOUR CHILD'S TEACHERS. SPECIFIC INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL.**

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)

The Raymond B. Stewart Middle School Advisory Council (SAC) is an important group of parents, students, school staff and other community members who meet on the second Thursday of most months at 3:15 p.m. in the Media Center.

There are currently **FOUR** Parent Vacancies on the SAC and you are encouraged to nominate yourself or others for membership. Please consider filling out and turning in a nomination form on August 13, the district wide secondary Registration Day.

If you are not able to come to Registration Day, SAC nomination forms will also be available in the front office beginning August 5th. Forms must be returned to the front office by Friday, August 16th to be eligible for voting.

Voting will take place during the 6th Grade Open House, Tuesday August 27, and the 7th/8th Grade Open House on Thursday, August 29th.

2012 - 2013 SCHOOL MEAL PRICES

	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
Reduced (all grades)	\$.30	\$.40
Elementary	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.90
Secondary	\$ 1.35	\$ 2.40

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

It is very important to check with your child's doctor to make sure that the proper immunizations required to enter school have been received. Once your child's records are updated, you may bring them to the school during the summer. This will expedite your wait on Registration Day.

SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS

Requirements for Td (Tetanus Booster) and Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis) for Entry and Attendance into the 7th Grade

If a Td (Tetanus Booster) has been given within the last 2 years this is acceptable. A temporary immunization form will then be written with an expiration date of 5 years from the administration date of the last Td.

If a Td has been given more than 2 years ago this is not acceptable and the student will be sent to get a Tdap before entering the 7th grade.

If you should have any questions please contact the Pasco County Health Dept. in your area.

Students who do not have their shots current AND EVIDENCED ON FLORIDA FORM #680 ("The Blue Card") will not be able to receive a schedule, bus pass, or even enroll in school until their immunizations are up-to date. The Blue Card is obtained from either your doctor or health department.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

If you have free time and would like to volunteer at RBSMS in the Media Center, for a field trip, work in the concession stand, or any school function/activity, you must complete a Volunteer Application Form and be approved. Stop by and visit the Volunteer Table on Registration Day and complete your application.

For more information, you may call the school office, 794-6500, and leave a message for our Volunteer Coordinator, Robyn Herndon.

DRESS CODE

Students must arrive at school appropriately dressed, and remain so throughout the day. The district Dress Code for secondary

students is strictly enforced at RBSMS. Listed below are a few guidelines to help you plan your school wardrobe.

-bikini, tank tops, pajamas, muscle shirts and spandex clothing are not permitted.

-pants shall be worn securely at the waist. No abdomen skin or underwear is to be exposed.

-tops must be long enough to clearly overlap the belt line.

-hats and head coverings shall not be worn on school campus unless approved by the principal for medical, health, or religious reasons.

-shorts and skirt bottoms must be no higher than 4" above the knee.

-blouses, shirts, and sweaters cannot dip below a line formed between the right and left armpit and must have sleeves.

-clothing that advertises tobacco, alcohol, drugs, gangs, or anti-social groups are not permitted.

-jewelry shall be worn in a way that does not permit a safety of health hazard or cause a disruption to the educational process.

-wallet chains and dog collars are not permitted.

A STUDENT IN VIOLATION OF THE DRESS CODE WILL BE REQUIRED TO CHANGE INTO APPROPRIATE CLOTHING BEFORE RETURNING TO CLASS.

ELECTRONICS

In addition to dress policies, please also be familiar with the policy on electronics including all music players, games, and telephones. All electronics are to be off and put away during

the school day unless they are part of the curriculum presented in class. The teacher will determine when and if the use of the electronic device is appropriate. Violators will have their electronic device confiscated and returned only to the parent or guardian if have them out during an unauthorized period during the day.

year (**6th - 8th**) to be promoted to high school. Successful completion of these courses require the earning of a grade of "D" or higher.

In addition, one semester course, which includes Career and Education Planning, must be completed by the end of the 8th grade year. This course includes using the online student planning and advising system known as ePep, which results in the completion of a personalized academic and career plan.

Every effort will be made to assist your child in achieving the level of performance required for promotion to high school. We count on your support to ensure your child's academic success

IMPORTANT DATES

August 12	Teachers Return
August 13	Registration Day
August 19	First Day of School for Students
August 27	6 th Grade Open House
August 29	7 th /8 th Grade Open House
Sept. 2	Labor Day - No School

SCHOOL HOURS

The student day begins at 8:30 am. and ends at 2:55 pm. Students who ride a bus will load and unload in behind the front office. Car riders are to be dropped off and picked up in the driveway in front of the school. No student is permitted on campus before 8:10 a.m. in the morning and students must be off campus by 3:10 p.m. in the afternoon.



PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

There have been some major changes from the Department of Education in regards to promotion from middle school that you should be aware of. According to the State of Florida rules, middle school students must successfully complete Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies each

RBSMS Who's Who

Ms. Shae Davis	Principal
Mrs. Laurie Johnson	Assistant Principal
Mrs. Shalonda Brooks	Assistant Principal
Mrs. Kathy Dew	Principal's Secretary
Mrs. Waldron	Nurse
Mrs. Ruthie Breeds	Food & Nutrition Manager
Mr. Leroy Christopher	Plant Manager
Mrs. Stephanie Holzum	8 th /Guidance Counselor
Ms. Courtney Northcutt	7 th /Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Amy Pinsky	6 th /Guidance Counselor

Who's Who Pasco County

Mr. Kurt Browning	Superintendent
Mrs. Amelia Larson	Asst. Superintendent for Student Achievement
Mr. Ray Gadd	Asst. Superintendent of Administration
Mrs. Monica Isle	Executive Director of East Side Schools
Mr. Allen Altman	School Board Member
Ms. Joanne Hurley	School Board Member
Ms. Cynthia Armstrong	School Board Member
Ms. Alison Crumbley	School Board Member