Panther Tales

Jan. 25, 2024

Para ver este boletín en otro idioma, haga clic <u>aquí</u> para abrir el boletín en la web. En el lado derecho, haz clic en traducir. (To view this newsletter in another language, click <u>here</u> to open the newsletter on the web. On the right side, click translate.)

Principal's Message

Greetings families and friends,

- Hardship Transfers- Applications for a hardship transfer will open on January 1st and remain
 open through February 28th. Applications are reviewed annually by the Student Assignment
 Office. Through this process, parents can seek a transfer for medical reasons, curriculum
 differences, child care situations or if they are an employee of the school system. Parents
 may also request the renewal of an existing hardship transfer. The Hardship Transfer Policy as
 well as the Hardship Transfer Guidelines will be used to determine student eligibility.
- Valentine's Day- It is important to ensure that all homemade candy, desserts, baked goods, or
 other edible items are not to be distributed during school hours. Please know that taking this
 measure will help us maintain a safe environment for all students with allergies, etc. You can
 help us protect your student(s) by requesting that they not eat anything given to them by
 another person, anything that they have not brought from your home or anything not in its
 original sealed package.
- Confiscation of Non-Approved Items- Fulton County School campuses are a place of learning and safety for all students. As such, we have a zero-tolerance policy for any personal items that cause a distraction or disruption to the learning process.

This includes vapes, e-cigarettes, tobacco products, illegal substances, and any other personal items that are not conducive to a safe and orderly learning environment. While this guidance is not new, I would like to draw your attention to a minor revision that has been made to the current 2023-2024 Student Code of Conduct. This revision explains the actions school administration will take when the confiscation and/or destruction of these items is necessary to maintain a safe and orderly learning environment for all students. In short, cell phones that

are confiscated will only be released to your parent or guardian at the end of the school day in which it was taken and no vape cartridges, e-cigarettes that don't have a separate battery, etc. will be returned to any student or parent/guardian. These will be destroyed. Cartridges containing illegal substances may lead to criminal charges.

More detailed information on these actions can be found on pages 9 and 10 of our 2023-2024 Student Code of Conduct which is located here.

I urge you to discuss this matter with your student and ensure that they are aware of the school's policy. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Your Proud Principal, Thomas Garrett

Assistant Principals' Message

Ms. Bulluck will conduct a Course Scheduling 101 Information Meeting for rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders for next year. A virtual option is on Feb. 13th- starting at 9:30 a.m. using this link:

Click here to join the meeting

Meeting ID: 282 900 478 778

Passcode: MJk5Z8

<u>Download Teams</u> | <u>Join on the web</u>

Ms. Bulluck will conduct a face-to-face option on Feb. 13th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the media center.

Mr. Garrett, Mr. Hulett and Ms. Harp will conduct a 6th Grade Rising Parent Night from 6:00-7:00 on Feb. 22 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the media center.

Mr. Garrett plans to have a morning meet and greet with rising 6th grade parents at each feeder elementary school in March from 8:00 -9:00 a.m. (Heards Ferry- March 22; Lake Forrest- March 25; and High Point-March 26).

Counselors' Corner



Happy Birthday Dr. King!



REFLECTION: LIST 3 POSITIVE THINGS THAT HAPPENED TODAY





Useful Links from the Student Support Team

Georgia Department of Family & Children Services Child Abuse Hotline -

Reports are taken 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 1-855-GACHILD / 1-855-422-4453

Georgia Crisis and Access Line - For immediate access to routine or crisis services, please call the Georgia Crisis and Access Line (GCAL) at 1-800 715-4225 or 988. GCAL is the 24/7 hotline for accessing mental health services in Georgia.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - We can all help prevent suicide. Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals. 1-800-273-8255

Health Crisis Resources - Parent resources on COVID-19 from the National Association of School Psychologists.

National Online Safety - Here you will find the most up to date guides for social media apps and platforms. There is very useful information for parents about apps such as Fortnite, Instagram, Snapchat, Tik Tok, YouTube and others.

 $\underline{\textbf{StopBullying.gov}} \cdot \textbf{provides information from various government agencies on bullying, cyberbullying, prevention, and response to the provided of the$

Be the Voice - a student-driven initiative that results in a kinder, more inclusive school environment

Building Parent Capacity

Transitioning from grade to grade is difficult for many students. This article addresses ways to handle grade to grade school transitions in middle and high school. <u>Middle to High School Transition 10-31-2013.pdf (unl.edu)</u>

Calendar at a Glance

- Jan. 31: Basketball Sandy Springs Middle- Home
- Feb. 7: Basketball Hopewell-Home
- Feb. 9: Basketball @Haynes Bridge
- Feb. 13: Governance at 7:30 AM
- Feb. 13: Scheduling 101 with Rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders (Virtual @9:30 AM; Face to Face @
- 6:00 PM)
- Feb. 14: Foundation at 7:30 AM
- Feb. 14: Basketball Elkins Pointe-Home
- Feb. 16: Basketball @Autrey Mill
- Feb. 19: President's Day (School Out)
- Feb. 20: Student Holiday
- Feb. 22: Rising 6th Grade Meeting from 6:00 to 7:00 PM
- Feb. 23: Basketball @Crabapple
- Feb. 28: Basketball Fast Academy- Home

Band on the Run! (and Chorus, and Orchestra on the Run!)







8th grade members of the Ridgeview chorus, band and symphony took a field trip to all three feeder elementary schools, starting at Heards Ferry, then Lake Forest and ending their tour at High Point Elementary. Part celebration, part recruiting trip, but ALL FUN!!

Congratulations to Greeting Card Contest Winners







Two eighth graders finished in first and third place at the annual Nengajo Contest sponsored by the Georgia Association of Teachers of Japanese. Noah White's New Year's Greeting Card finished in the first place, and Lian Minns' New Year's Greeting Card finished in the third place!

Congratulations to both students!

Spirit Night Was a Success. Next Up: MACC Tournament!



















Announcements and Events

SGC Elections 2024

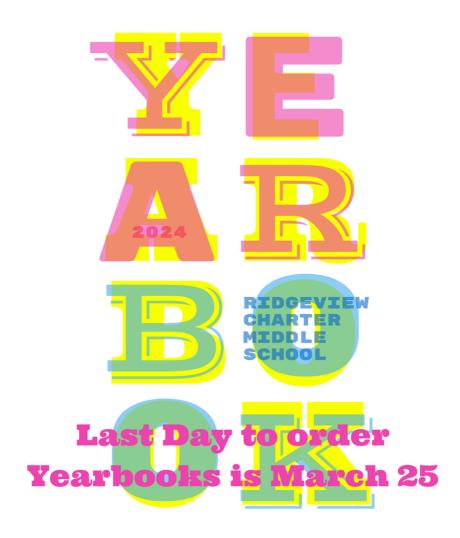
The candidate declaration phase will begin on **Monday, February 5th** and will end **Friday, March 29th at 5pm**. Candidates who wish to run for election should visit our charter system website on February 5th. We need 2 employees, 1 parent, and 1 community member for next year.

Candygrams are Coming Soon. Please Sign Up to Volunteer!

Valentine's Day is almost here and that means it is time for Candygrams. Send a friend, teacher or student a Conversation Heart treat. Each Candygram is only \$1! Candygrams will be for sale during all lunch periods beginning Monday, February 5 through Thursday, February 8, and they will be delivered to the student's homeroom teacher for distribution. This fundraiser benefits our 8th grade programming, including the 8th grade dance. Please sign up to help at this link!

Order Your Ad for the Yearbook! Ads Are Due March 1.

Celebrate that special student, teacher or staff member with an ad for the yearbook. March 1 is the LAST day to order ads, with options of full page, half page or quarter pages. Please find pricing, as well as the opportunity to design and order your ad at this link. The Yearbook code is #17957. In addition, March 25 is the last day to order yearbooks! Order yearbooks here via Fulton County Payments or at the above yearbook ad link.



Save the Date! RCMS Parent Party & Auction

Save the Date! Our annual RCMS Parent Party & Auction will be held on April 20th at the new El Azteca on Peachtree Dunwoody Road! This fundraising event is a tremendous support for our RCMS Foundation. Our Auction will be available online this year and we are in need of amazing auction items! If you have something that you are willing to contribute, please <u>fill out this form.</u>



Sandy Springs Education Force

Do you have electronics you'd love to recycle? You are in luck! Sandy Springs Education Force is partnering with eWaste ePlanet to provide an opportunity to recycle electronics on January 27th from 10am-1pm at North Springs High School's parking lot. We will accept electronics for a minimum donation of \$25 per car to SSEF. Working and non-working items are accepted, and all data will be wiped clean. We are also collecting new school supplies!

SSEF will need to pay extra, per-pound charges to eWaste ePlanet to recycle certain items, so additional donations are appreciated for TVs, printers, etc. See our website for specific details and to make your donation ahead of time: https://www.sandyspringseducationforce.org/electronics-drive/



The Clinic Closet Needs Your Help!

RCMS families- Please help keep the clinic closet stocked with items that our students need from time to time. Thank you for your help! Here is our <u>Amazon wish list link.</u>

RCMS Foundation

The RCMS Foundation supports BOTH the Music and Sports programs at the school. We would like to thank our community sponsors for believing in the mission the Foundation is supporting and helping to fund all of these programs for the students. Our Foundation sponsors include Shep Lawrence of Allstate Insurance Co. and Jennifer Barnes of Barnes Young Realty Team.

Joining the Foundation helps ensure that the school can continue to support these wonderful programs, and becoming a Corporate Partner is a great way to promote your business and support the students. **Find out more about our Corporate Partnership Program** here and look below to see and support our generous sponsors.

Jaguar Partner



QuestOrthodontics smiles accomplished—

Cougar Partners

serving more wins for our community

Join me in supporting the Ridgeview Panthers.



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JOIN US IN SUPPORTING OUR RIDGEVIEW COMMUNITY!





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Leopard Partners













Consider Joining PTA and Foundation!

- Parent Teacher Association: Consider joining PTA with a range of donation levels to suit all
 families. These donations fund teacher grants, classroom supplies, staff gifts and
 recognitions, and student treats and incentives throughout the year. Please join at
 www.ptarcms.org.
- RCMS Foundation: Our amazing Foundation provides funding to our music and athletics
 programs. If your student participates in these hallmark programs, we need your support.
 Community partners are needed, too. Donate at www.rcmsfoundation.org.

Want to be Social?

Besides Panther Tales, Ridgeview Charter Middle School has several ways you can stay up-to-date on news and happenings. Follow us on our main <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> pages for a peek into the daily life of RCMS, plus read success stories about some of our RCMS alumni! The Ridgeview PTA also has <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> pages for PTA-sponsored happenings, spirit wear updates and volunteer opportunities.

Got News?

Panther Tales takes submissions for RCMS news or events that would benefit our student body. To submit your information, <u>please fill out this form</u> and the Panther Tales team will get back to you with any questions.

Ridgeview Charter Middle School

Email: Ridgeview@fultonschools.org

