

What's Happening in Guidance

Welcome Back Parents/Guardians!

Despite a hold on the start of the school year, we hope that the transition from summer mode to school mode has been a positive one for you and your child(ren) From our view point, it seems that all has been going well and will only get better in weeks to come.

Even though it is early in the year, I would like to take this time and share with you what students will be doing in Guidance class. Yes, we are going to “guide” them, but “how you might ask”? In sixth grade even though we do not have direct contact with the students due to the wonderful addition of foreign language last year, we still have something in place which is called the Advisor-Advisee Program. This program allows sixth grade teachers; the support staff; as well as some related art staff and possibly the administrators, advise 8-9 students in a group through different lessons focused on a variety of topics including; transition, time management, bullying, and conflict resolution. These lessons will be delivered by each advisor through creative lessons provided by the school counselors. The goal of the advisor-advisee program is to have students work together and have discussions on topics that affect their every day life as a student. Students will meet with their advisor at least 12 times throughout the 2011-2012 school year.

All seventh and eighth grade students are scheduled to take Guidance classes. If you are interested in seeing the topics your son or daughter will be learning and discussing; please visit the Guidance Website and look under seventh and eighth grade curriculum. If you click on one of the links, you will see what the seventh and eighth grade comprehensive counseling curriculum entails. Some topics in seventh grade are: self-awareness, goal setting, rumors, cyber bullying and many more. In eighth grade some of the topics include: relationships (peers, online, adults), decisions, diversity and much more. Also, we ask that when your child does bring home an assignment, please take the time to complete it with them. It will help you, as the parent/guardian, be more aware of your child's thoughts as well as what they go through as a middle school student. Your child will be able to see what you went through as well. As we learned last year from some parental and student feedback, it is definitely an eye-opener for both parent and children.

Again, thank you for a positive start to the school year and we look forward to open communication with parents and students within the RMS community.