

# *Navigating the River*

===== #RMSGOODASGOLD =====

AUGUST 9, 2023

## WELCOME TO NAVIGATING THE RIVER!

Each week, you will receive our newsletter containing important dates, events, and school news. Navigating the River is one of the best ways to stay up to date on what's happening at the River and ways to get involved to help make this school year the best yet!  
#RMSGoodAsGold



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- August 15th - Football vs. Otwell MS (Forsyth Central HS - 6:30 pm)
- August 22nd - Football vs. Desana MS (Lambert HS - 6:30 pm)
- August 24th - PTSO Spirit Night @ Bruster's (1540 Sharon Road)
- August 29th - Football vs. Lakeside MS (Lambert HS - 6:30 pm)



Tell them  
you are  
with RMS!

Thursday, August 24th



Bruster's Ice Cream  
1540 Sharon Road  
Cumming  
(Sharon Greens Shopping Center)

20% of the proceeds  
benefits our school.  
Please tell them you are  
with RMS!



**4PM - 10pm**

## MEET & GREET FEEDBACK

We loved seeing all our Panther family at Meet & Greet. We hope it was full of information you needed to start the 2023-2024 school year off golden! If you have feedback you would like to share with us (both glowing and areas for growing), we'd love to hear it!

[Meet & Greet Feedback Form](#)

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

### ATTENDANCE

Please remember to email Ms. Hayworth at [f41677@forsyth.k12.ga.us](mailto:f41677@forsyth.k12.ga.us) if your student is absent for any reason! Absence letters/emails must be received within 5 days of your student's absence.

### CHECK OUT PROCEDURES

- No check outs will be processed after 3:30 PM.

- Students will only be released to a parent or adult listed in Infinite Campus. No student will be released to anyone under the age of 18.



## ITEM DROP-OFFS

For safety reasons, we will not accept any drop-off items for students (instruments, backpacks, etc.). Acceptable drop-off items include medication for the clinic, eye glasses, and anything dealing with dietary concerns. We thank you for your understanding in helping make our school secure!

## WATER BOTTLES

Middle schoolers spill... a lot. Please make sure water bottles sent to school are non-glass and spill-proof to avoid messes.



**ATTENTION!**

**2023-24 Riverwatch Exam Schedule and Policy.**

The following is the exam schedule and policy for the 2023-24 school year. All courses will have midterms and final exams. The test dates for this year have already been set. Please see the schedule of tests listed below and mark your calendars!

**Midterms: December 13-15**

- December 13th - Language Arts (All grades)
- December 14th - Science (All grades) and Spanish (8th grade only)
- December 15th - Math (All grades) and Social Studies (All grades)

**Final Exams: May 16-21**

- May 16th - Social Studies (All grades)
- May 17th - Language Arts (All grades)
- May 20th - Science (All grades) and Spanish (8th grade only)
- May 21st - Math (All grades)

**Please note that no exams may be taken early - there will be no exceptions.** All exams that are missed due to being out of town early will be placed into the gradebook as missing. Missing grades do calculate as a **zero**, but a grade change can be made for missed midterms (midterms only) if the student takes the midterms on the first day back to school in January. **There will be no opportunities to make up for missed end-of-year final exams.**

We hope that providing this information at the very beginning of school will ensure that all parents can plan and prepare.

## UPDATED EXAM POLICY

Check out our updated Exam Policy!

## STUDENT MEDICATION PROCEDURE

If your student needs medication during the school day, please see the page for Nurse Brenda!

[Student Medication](#)

## TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION



**Carpool:** Morning Carpool will begin at 8:15 and end at the 9:00 tardy bell. Please ensure all drivers pull as far forward as possible to make room for others. Our busiest carpool time is between 8:30-8:50. Please plan to leave in time to allow for traffic and longer carpool lines if you will arrive during this time.

Afternoon carpool will start at 4:12 and continue until the last student is picked up. Please make sure you arrive to pick your student up by 4:30. Please pull forward as far as possible to allow space for others. Encourage your student to look for your vehicle and have their belongings ready to load quickly and efficiently.

**Bus:** Transportation rosters will be available to view during open house. Students will be sorted by grade level and listed alphabetically along their grade levels hallways. Students and families will be able to see their assigned route number, estimated morning and afternoon pick-up/drop-off times, and bus stop locations. Families are also able to view this same transportation information by using their Parent Portal account and navigating to the Transportation tab. Parents can also view transportation information using the following link <https://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/Page/845> This has all the information concerning bus routes and who to contact if you have any transportation concerns.

**Walker:** Please make sure to complete the [Walker Form](#) available on the Riverwatch website!

## BUS SAFETY WITH CARRY-ON ITEMS

Any large item (band instrument, athletic equipment, school projects, etc.) on an FCS school bus during AM and PM routes must meet the following guidelines:



1. The student must be able to safely manage the item without any assistance while loading, sitting in their seat, and unloading the bus.
2. The item must be maintained in that student's seating space at all times.
3. The item cannot be stored on the floor, under a seat, or on a seat.
4. The item being held by a student in their seating space cannot block the driver's view of the passenger compartment or the immediate exterior of the bus.

Thank you for your cooperation as we work to ensure student safety.

## BUS STOP CHANGES

Students are assigned one bus stop, morning and afternoon. FCS Transportation does not authorize bus stop changes where students can go home with friends or relatives or get off the bus at a bus stop other than their designated bus stop assigned to them and their home address. The only exception is in court-ordered joint custody scenarios where an additional address has been updated and verified in their IC profile.



## EVERYTHING YOU EVER NEEDED TO KNOW ABOUT PARENT PORTAL

Got a question about Parent Portal and grades/schedule/forms/navigation? Check out our Resource Guides here!

[Resource Guides for Parent Portal](#)

## CANVAS HOW-TO GUIDES

To be best prepared for the first day of school, it would be beneficial for you and your student to review some navigation tips for our new learning management system, Canvas! Click [here](#) to be taken to the Forsyth County School's Canvas How-To Guides!

We do ask for grace as we are all learning Canvas together. With it being new for everyone this year, there may be times where bugs exist. If that's the case, please show patience as we work through the issues!



## PANTHERS BEING #RMSGOODASGOLD

Our wonderful art teacher, Ms. Folea, had a painting selected for the Art of Georgia contest! Her winning painting will hang for the next year in either the Governor's Mansion or the Governor's Office at the State Capitol. We're so lucky to have such talented staff, both in and out of the classroom!



## INTERESTED IN BEING A MENTOR?

Register for a training today!

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS IN EDUCATION!



