

River Hill High School

12101 Clarksville Pike, Clarksville, MD 21029
<http://rhhs.hcpss.org/> 410-313-7120

Dear Prospective Students and Families,

Welcome to the RHHS community! We know this transition can feel overwhelming, especially as you try to figure out course registration, participation in new activities, and student voice in a new school.

Let's start with our favorite phrase: "It's a great day to be a Hawk!" You become a Hawk as soon as you register for your JumpStart courses at RHHS. You will also hear us say, "At RHHS, we strive to be better and better every day in every way!" So, we thought it would be a good idea to share some information about how you can join us as we work together on #HawkPRIDE!!

Be sure to check the RHHS website monthly for updates. We promise to include information to make sure new students feel ready to become HAWKS!

Kathryn McKinley, Principal

Course Registration: We understand that you have some required/recommended courses and options for many exciting electives. All of your courses build your high school transcript, which is important for graduation and the college and/or career experience that comes next.

Recommendations: Trust your teacher recommendations and your counselor guidance. If you have additional questions, here are some contacts for you at RHHS. ([STAFF listing](#))

Michael Krouse: Student Services Team Leader

Jocelyn Martin: 9th Grade Team Leader

Brandon Lauer: Athletics and Activities Manager

Napoleon Saunders: 9th Grade Assistant Principal



Upcoming 2018 Events

March

Pippin (Spring Musical)
March 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th

April

Spring Musical Concerts

June

8th Grade Visit June 6 (with
bus transportation)

August

August 8th Fall Sports Tryouts

Important Opportunities

Sign up through HCPSS Connect for the RHHS newsletters and publications. The [website](#) and [calendar](#) are good sites to bookmark.

Check out the RHHS [PTSA](#), RHHS [Boosters](#), and RHHS [Music Boosters](#).

Also, be sure to follow us on [TWITTER](#) and [FACEBOOK](#).

Stay tuned for more information about Welcome Nights for new students, athletic camps/tryouts and AP Boot Camp.

Performing/Visual Arts Electives and Auditions

Act Up: Theatre Arts provides performance-based learning in storytelling, design, collaborative processes, and performance skills. Incoming students with significant prior theatrical experiences may request an audition/interview to waive the Theatre Arts I pre-requisite. Extra-curricular opportunities include the fall play, the spring musical, stage crew and comedy improv. Contact: Pam Land

Dance On: Dance consists of composition, choreography, multiple dance forms, and performance. Dance teaches students to express themselves creatively and critically and improves energy, strength, balance, flexibility, and endurance. Dance I requires no audition. A dance workshop is available Feb. 6, 2018 from 3:30-5:30 pm; students will learn 2 dances (jazz and lyrical); auditions (groups of 4) will be held Feb. 8, 2018 from 3-6 pm. Dance participants in Jr. and Sr. Dance Companies plan travel to Disney World to perform in Disney Springs. Contact: Jennifer Hennesie

Be Visual: Even with a little interest in Art or Photo, you might be considering how to express yourself and build a portfolio. Art I is a pre-requisite for Art II or Photo I. Art I may be bypassed with a middle school art teacher recommendation or by submitting a portfolio. There will also be an ART JumpStart class for dual enrollment. Go to <http://www.rhhsart.org/> to learn more about the program, review sample schedules, and find out about the Art 2 home placement test. You can also follow us on Instagram @appelrhhs or @jesmith2 or @cecilrhhs. Contact: Jacob Cecil

Sing a Song: Vocal music provides wonderful opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom. Chorus, Concert Choir GT, Women's Choir GT and Chamber Choir GT facilitate musical ability, develop critical thinking, and increase collaborative work with peers and new friends. Highlights include competitive assessments, masterclasses, field trips and spring tours. Extracurricular opportunities include Hawkappella with the Leading Ladies and Talon Tones and RHHS Community Chorale. Contact: Katie Geiger



Auditions

Theatre Arts

Pamela_land@hcpss.org

Dance

February 6 & 8 3:00-6:00 PM

Jennifer_hennesie@hcpss.org

Visual Arts

<http://www.rhhsart.org/>

Jacob_cecil@hcpss.org

Vocal Music

February 8 & 9 3:30-6:30 PM

Katherine_geiger@hcpss.org

Band

Michael_blackman@hcpss.org

Orchestra

Jeong_kim@hcpss.org

Music Technology & Guitar

Richard_mccready@hcpss.org



Physical Education

/Health Requirements

Lifetime Fitness (Semester) helps students develop physical literacy through health and skill-related concepts of fitness while engaging in lifelong physical activities.

Health Education (Semester) helps students develop an understanding of health concepts, behaviors, and skills that reduce health risks and enhance the health and well-being of self and others.

Regular physical activity is one of the most important things adolescents can do for good health. It helps to reduce stress and anxiety as well as increases self-esteem. It may also help improve a student's academic performance.

PE Electives offer even more opportunities for physical activity.

Sports for Life; Strength and Conditioning I, II, III; Specialty Sports

Marching On: The best starting point is to register for Symphonic Band to open the realm of musical possibilities. Everyone plays and the Band Director will host auditions in February to make sure that everyone is placed appropriately. Beyond the classroom, musicians will be able to support school spirit with the Friday Night Live Marching Band, Pep Band, Jazz Combo, Orchestra Pit, spring trips, and small ensembles. Contact: Michael Blackman

String Along: Students with experience playing string instruments often begin in the String Ensemble. Auditions for the String Orchestra are being held in January and February. Audition materials will also be shared with middle school orchestra directors. Please consider the Orchestra Leadership Team to plan extracurricular activities. Contact: Jay Kim

Other Musical Opportunities: Do you want to try something new in music? Other classes include piano, guitar, music technology (one of the JumpStart classes) and music theory. Students can become audio engineers, music producers, and explore music in many forms. You can review sample student work [here](#). Contact: Richard McCready

Check out a Friday Night Live performance [here](#).

Do you want to hear an amazing percussion ensemble from our PRISM concert? Click [here](#).

Our traditional Winter Assembly is a treat to remember. All of the performing arts and visual arts are highlighted. Here's a [sample](#).



PE/Health Curriculum
Contact: Marni Rosenbaum
marni_rosenbaum@hcpss.org



Technology Ed for Graduation

Foundations of Technology: In this course, students explore different types of technology, create/code websites, enhance computer skills and improve presentation skills. Students create designs using both sketching and Computer Aided Design techniques. Students also work in teams using hand tools and power tools to build structures, devices, and circuits. Contact: Kevin Cannon

Exploring Computer Science: In this course students experience real-world relevant computing problems while gaining foundation computer science knowledge. Contact: Kevin Cannon

Computer Science AP: In this course, students engage in a fast-paced course that extends the study of fundamental principles and technology of object-oriented programming. All grade levels are eligible and it is one of the few Advanced Placement courses available to 9th graders. This also prepares students for the Computer Science Academy. Contact: Vicki Mariano

Note: PLTW meets graduation requirements.



AP in 9th Grade... Human Geography AP

Students learn about patterns and processes that have shaped social and environmental outcomes. 9th Graders are able to enroll in the Advanced Placement course, especially if they have a strong interest in social studies. Contact: Callie Casper

Electives and More...

The HCPSS Catalog of Approved High School Courses for the 2018-2019 school year provides a wealth of information about academies and elective courses. Courses at RHHS support the **Teacher Academy** and **Project Lead the Way**. Students also can access courses in the **Accounting, Finance, and Marketing Academies**. Many students attend the ARL as part of their daily schedules. Also, JumpStart programs of study at RHHS include early college programming in general studies, computer science, criminal justice, and entrepreneurship. Contact: Counselors, Teresa Waters, Tim Ryan, or Katie Noecker for RHHS academies.

Don't forget **World Language**. Students can continue Spanish and French or start a new language like Chinese or German. Contact: Teresa Goodrich

Another RHHS elective combines **Yearbook I and Journalism I** for an [introduction to professional publications](#).

This course will develop communication, writing, editing, marketing, and creative skills as a fast track to leadership levels in publication. The RHHS Yearbook is called TALON and the staff has earned many awards.

Contact: Kristin Mitchell/
Wayne Tromble

Once you've turned in your course registration, what's next?

First and foremost, we will want to welcome you to HawkNation! We host a dynamic website with current news & calendar events as well as an even more active Student Canvas Community with calendar updates and a weekly Hawks' Eye newsletter just for students.

Here might be some helpful links for you:

[Back to School presentations](#)

[GT Research Update](#)

[High School 101](#)

[Athletics & Activities](#)

[RHHS Vision, Mission & Student Pledge](#)

[Hawk PRIDE](#)

[Students of the Month](#)

[Agenda Book](#)

[Attendance Expectations](#)

[Academic Integrity](#)

[Boosters Online Spirit Store](#)

Student Voice is...

- Listening to...
- Learning from...
- And leading with...

(Quaglia 2016 Student Voice Report)

RIVER HILL HIGH SCHOOL



SGA

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Advisor: John_Difato@hcpss.org

Students will

- Demonstrate RHHS PRIDE
- Attend meetings regularly and participate positively
- Commit to school service hours for projects, initiatives, and events
- Seek input from student stakeholders
- Represent student voice at PTSA, Boosters, and SGA

SGA sponsors Orientation, Homecoming, Raising Student Voice Conferences, Student Delegates, Spirit Days, Prom Promise, Club/Activity Support, and so much more!

Class of 2019 Terri Bradford and Deb Shannon (Class Sponsors)

Class of 2020 Karen Allshouse and Noelle Mineart (Class Sponsors)

Class of 2021 Tiffany Liu and Jocelyn Martin (Class Sponsors)

Class of 2022 Jen Hennesie and Katie Geiger (Class Sponsors)

What does a typical day at RHHS look like? Check out our Announcements which update regularly and include weather and news headlines!



Students of the Month show HawkPRIDE.

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|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| <p>1 ★</p> | <p>2 ★</p> | <p>3 ★</p> | <p>4 ★</p> | <p>5 ★</p> |
| <p>6 ★</p> | <p>7 ★</p> | <p>8</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>10</p> |
| <p>11</p> | <p>12</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14</p> | <p>15</p> |
| <p>16</p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18</p> | <p>19 ★</p> | <p>20 ★</p> |