



MAURY RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEWS FROM THE
COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Welcome Back Eagles!

Ms. Beard and Mrs. Paxton

Back in October, we started "Eagles of the Week" to recognize students in all 3 grade levels for outstanding behavior (good citizenship, work ethic, kindness, etc). Students are nominated each week by their team of teachers. We will display pictures of the nominated students weekly in the main hallway.

Course requests for the 2023-24 school year will begin soon. We will be meeting with your students during the school day to gather this information. 8th Grade students will be traveling to RCHS on January 20th to tour the building.

With Winter comes illness! Parents, please remember to contact the school if your child is sick or will be out due to a doctor's appointment. You can contact us at (540)463-3129 and leave a message if you are unable to reach us.

We're so glad you're here!

Dates to remember:

Jan 12th - Curriculum Night at RCHS (Recommended for 8th grade)

January 13th - Report Cards

Jan 16th - No School (Holiday)

Jan 20th - 8th grade tours RCHS

Feb 2nd - Interims

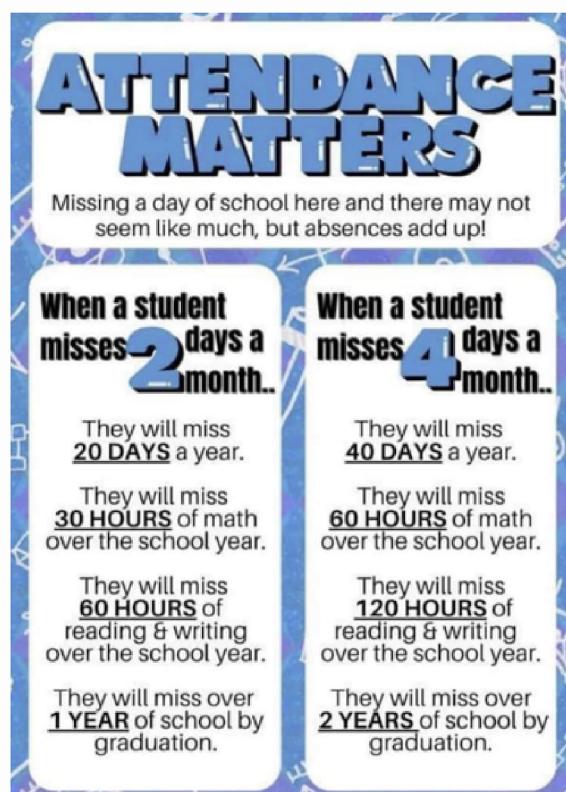
Feb 8th 3:30 - 7:30 - Parent Teacher Conferences

Feb 13th - Teacher Work Day, No School for students



Attendance Matters!

Missing 10% of school (2 days per month) can have a lasting negative effect on students. By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of the three signs that a student may drop out of high school. If your student is having difficulty getting to school, please call the counseling office and speak with Mrs. Paxton or Ms. Beard. Once your student misses 5 days an attendance meeting will be scheduled.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your children maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and non-Covid-19 related medical appointments during the school day.
- Keep your child healthy, and if you are concerned about Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your children must stay home because they are sick or in quarantine, make sure they have asked teachers for resources and materials to make up for the missed learning time in the classroom.

Help your teen stay engaged

- Find out if your children feel engaged by their classes, and feel safe from bullies and other threats.
- Make sure your children are not missing class because of challenges with behavioral issues or school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, contact the school and work with them to find a solution.
- Monitor your child's academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors when necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage your child to join meaningful after-school activities, including sports and clubs.
- Notice and support your children if they are showing signs of anxiety.

Communicate with the school

- Know the school's attendance policy – incentives and penalties.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not adding up.
- Seek help from school staff, other parents or community agencies if you need support.

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Visit Attendance Works at www.attendanceworks.org for free downloadable resources and tools!