



Ridgeview Middle School

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Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.

August 9, 2022

Dear Ridgeview Families:

I hope that each family is having an enjoyable, relaxing, and rejuvenating summer! The start of the 2022-2023 school year is right around the corner. The staff and I at Ridgeview are looking forward to a peaceful and productive school year!

Our theme this year at Ridgeview is “**Raising the Bar for Student Success**”! Collectively, we will be working with your child to encourage, support and provide them with the tools to elevate them to the next level. Students will be encouraged to “dream, achieve and succeed”! With this in mind, as a school, we will continue to focus on the principles of the **Growth Mindset** and engage in **Mindfulness** practices. The growth mindset fosters a belief that “with practice, perseverance and effort people have limitless potential to learn and grow.” Mindfulness means “being fully in the present moment” which assists in helping our students to learn how to “manage their emotions, make good choices and balance their busy lives.”

At Ridgeview, high expectations continue to be a top priority. We expect each student to “**Be Responsible, Be a Member and Be Safe**” (i.e. **Be RMS**) as a member of the school community. These standardized expectations have helped us to create and maintain an award winning, positive environment that is focused on learning and is at the core of our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program. Specific descriptions of each behavioral expectation can be found in our Ridgeview Middle School Family & Student Handbook and a copy has been enclosed for your convenience. Each student will receive a copy of the handbook **and** a copy is also available on our website. Additionally, each RMS family should review in detail with their child each expectation and other rules and regulations contained within the pages of the handbook.

Having good attendance is also a top priority at Ridgeview. Every student will be expected to attend school every day, on time. **Irregular attendance is a major impediment to academic success.** Parents/guardians are expected to ensure that their child will attend school daily.

The first day of school for students is **Wednesday, August 24, 2022**. Attached to this letter you will find our drop off and pick up procedures. It is imperative that each parent/guardian follows these procedures daily to eliminate unsafe conditions for our students. *This includes entering and exiting appropriately from the parking lot.* Please adhere to the posted signs. Also, pay close attention to students who are *crossing the streets* and *riding their bikes* to and from the building. Student safety continues to be our priority, and this requires everyone’s adherence to our procedures. Additionally, please note that the **first few days of school will create a back log in**

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the parking lot as each parent becomes familiar with our procedures. Your understanding and patience is greatly appreciated!

Additionally, on **Thursday, August 18, 2022**, we will have our **RMS Back to School Family Meeting & Ice Cream Social**. This event will take place at **5:30 p.m. at Ridgeview**. During the meeting we will cover: our school focus, student & parent/guardian expectations, Title 1 Funding and more! I hope that you will join me to kick off the school year in a positive way!

Below are items that need your immediate attention.

- ✓ **PROJECT CONNECT**- Please review the information regarding the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the services that are available to those who are in need within the district.
- ✓ **RIDGEVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY**-Please review the Ridgeview Middle School Parent Involvement Policy. Parent involvement is encouraged and expected at Ridgeview.
- ✓ **PARENT’S RIGHT TO KNOW**-As a Title 1 School we must meet certain federal regulations related to professional qualifications of teachers. The enclosed information addresses your rights as a parent in requesting this information.
- ✓ **PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)** - Please take the time to join the Ridgeview PTA. You can reach out to our PTA President Tonya Pompei and/or our PTA Vice President Michelle Manko at RidgeviewMSPTA@gmail.com if you are interested in working with our PTA.
- ✓ **PARENT PORTAL**- Please make sure you update your information in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. The most updated contact information for your child is needed for the district and our school to communicate with your family via phone, text, and email. **If you have yet to activate your account please email our secretary, Ms. Jackie Nash at jnash5135@columbus.k12.oh.us and she will provide you with your activation code.**
- ✓ **STAYING CONNECTED**- Please utilize our school website (www.ccsok.us/RidgeviewMS) and our social media platforms- Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (Ridgeview Proud and @Ridgeviewproud-handles) to stay up to date with what is happening at Ridgeview as well as to locate school related resources and documents (i.e., on our website).
- ✓ **GUIDE TO STUDENT SUCCESS**- An orderly and safe learning environment must have clear expectations for positive student behavior. A copy of the guide is available on the CCS website under the “Families” tab. Please review the guide with your child including the **CCS DRESS CODE**. Students at Ridgeview are expected to follow the CCS Dress Code and additional rules pertaining to student attire can be found in our Ridgeview Middle School Family & Student Handbook. Students who fail to follow our established dress code will receive disciplinary consequences. Parents/guardians will be expected to ***complete and sign the last four pages of the Guide to Student Success acknowledging you have read and understand what is being requested and return to school with their child.***
- ✓ **PERMISSION SLIP TO CONSUME FOOD AND/OR SNACKS FOR SPECIAL OCCASSIONS AT RIDGEVIEW**- **A copy should be completed and returned with your child to school.**
- ✓ **ELECTRONIC DEVICES AT RIDGEVIEW**- Students are only allowed to utilize electronic devices at Ridgeview with the permission of a staff member. Without such permission all electronics should be ***off and put away***. This policy includes **cell phones**. Parents, please make sure that you are doing your part to reinforce this rule. Please do not call or text your child during the school

day on their cell phone. If you need to reach your child, please call the office and the office staff will assist you. ***Students who do not adhere to this rule are subject to disciplinary action.***

Each Ridgeview family is invited and welcome to be a part of our collaborative environment to make sure that each child reaches their fullest potential. Working together we can help your child “dream, achieve and succeed.”

Sincerely,

Natalie M. James
Principal