



Riverbend News



Thursday, October 13, 2016

Welcome to Conferences

Thank you for attending conferences today here at Riverbend Middle School. Middle school students are often quick to point out to parents and guardians that, now that are at or near their “teen-age years,” they are ready for more independence. Even though our students are growing up, your involvement is still key to their success. Your participation in conferences today shows that you have made a commitment to your student having a positive experience here at Riverbend Middle School during the 2016-2017 school year. Thank you.

Most of our teachers are available tonight at conferences, but a few are not due to being shared between other buildings... If a teacher is not available today and you need to talk with him/her, please include the appropriate contact information on the sign-up sheet, and the teacher will contact you.

All teachers are in their classrooms tonight during conferences. The teachers have been advised to adhere to a 5-minute time limit per conference, especially if there are others in line. If five minutes are not sufficient, please use this conference to schedule a more in-depth conference at a later time.

- Jeff Burchfield

Bullying Prevention – Telling Versus Tattling

If anyone ever says or does anything here at school (or on-line) that you do not appreciate, please follow these steps:

- ✓ **STOP... Stay Calm.**
- ✓ **WALK... Remove Yourself from the Situation.**
- ✓ **TALK... Tell an Adult Who Can Help You.**

Remember – It is not tattling if your purpose is to try to resolve an issue!

Riverbend Dance Expectations

1. Only Riverbend Middle School students may attend.
2. All school rules are enforced at all school events. This includes using appropriate language, no possession of illegal substances, appropriate dress (no hats, unless part of a costume), and no fighting. Keep hands, feet, and inappropriate comments to yourself.
3. All food or drinks are to be consumed in the cafeteria.
4. Students absent from school are not allowed to attend.
5. No cell phones. If seen, cell phones will be taken and returned at the end of the dance.
6. Song requests are to be made verbally to the DJ. Students are not to make repeat requests, either written or verbally. Final say on song requests rests with the DJ and administration.
7. Appropriate dancing is expected... Consequences are in place for those who do not follow this expectation, including a warning, sitting out a portion of the dance, and having parents called to transport students home.
8. Stay in designated dance areas of the building – not in the east end of the building or on the other side of the gym.
9. Students leaving early may not re-enter. Parents or guardians may be called if students leave early or arrive late.
10. Have fun!!!

Academic Requirements

According to our student handbook, It is the expectation of Riverbend Middle School that every student will hand in every assignment and pass every class. If students do not follow these expectations, an intervention plan will be utilized that may include the students being invited to attend additional study sessions during and/or outside of the school day, students being required to attend study sessions during and/or outside of the school day, study table before and/or after school, and meeting(s) with parents / guardians. If a student continues to fail a class or classes after interventions have been implemented, alternative education options will be discussed. Students will be evaluated on an individual basis for what best fits his/her needs.

Contact Us...

Phone: (641) 648 – 6430
E-Mail: jburchfield@ifacadets.net
Web-Site: www.ifacadets.net

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10 VB-HD IF Board Meeting	11 FB-Hum CC-NCC	12 Early Dismissal	13 Early Dismissal Conferences 3:30-7:30	14 End First Exploratory Band-O-Rama
17 Alden Board Meeting	18 7-12 Vocal Concert HS, 7 p.m.	19 Early Dismissal Picture Retakes	20 Early Dismissal Conferences 3:30-7:30	21
24 Red Ribbon Week	25 8 th Grade Iowa Youth Survey VB Battle - After School	26 Early Dismissal End of Quarter 1	27 RMS Dance 7 - 9 / 9:15	28
31 Winter Sports Practices Starting	Nov 1	2 Early Dismissal	3	4
7	8	9 Early Dismissal	10 HS Musical Matinee	11



Riverbend News



Thursday, October 13, 2016

Riverbend Middle School to Host Fall Dance on Thursday, October 27, Starting at 7:00 p.m.

The first Riverbend Middle School dance of the 2016-2017 school will be held on Thursday, October 27, here at Riverbend. Although this is called a dance, this is in reality more of a middle school "social," due to the numerous activities that are planned for the evening. A disc jockey will be set up in half of the gymnasium for the dance portion of the event. In addition, throughout the evening students can participate in karaoke and board games in the cafeteria, Wii games in the music room, and the student lounge will be open for all students to enjoy. Concessions will also be available for purchase throughout the evening in the cafeteria, including Pizza Ranch pizza. There is also an optional costume contest.

Expectations for student behavior at our dances have been set and are included with this newsletter. Although we want our students to have fun at this event, it is important to communicate these expectations. In addition, it is also important to note that Riverbend Middle School dances are not "formal events." We like to think of our dances as "come as you are" events. We want all Riverbend students to feel that they can attend the event without having to worry about wearing new clothes or dresses. Students can choose to dress up if they want, but Riverbend Middle School does not encourage it. All students are expected to follow the Riverbend Middle School handbook dress code expectations for their dance attire: "Clothes that are too tight, too short, or too revealing are not to be worn. Students may not wear halter tops or bare midriff styles or any apparel that reveals portions of undergarments." These expectations are included in the student handbook. No strapless dresses or "spaghetti straps" are to be worn. Students not following these expectations should be prepared to change. In short, students if you have to ask yourself if it is appropriate to wear to a dance or not, then it probably is not. Your assistance with these expectations is appreciated.

The dance starts at 7:00 p.m., and ends at 9:00 p.m. for seventh-grade students, 9:15 p.m. for eighth-grade students. The staggered ending times assist with the flow of traffic in front of the building after the dance. Cost of admission is \$5 per student, which helps offset the cost of the DJ. Glow-necklaces will also be available at the dance for \$1 each. At least twelve Riverbend Middle School teachers and staff will supervise our dance.

We look forward to a fun dance and social on October 27!

Parents who would like to serve on our Parent Lighthouse Team, please let Mr. Burchfield know!

Sign Up for Weather Text Alerts

Winter weather is just around the corner. Please develop a plan for your student(s) and communicate this to him/her in the event of an early out or late start due to weather. Iowa Falls and Alden Schools will continue to participate in a state-sponsored communication program, where you will receive a text and/or an e-mail in the event that school is cancelled, delayed, or is getting out early. If you have used text alerts in the past, you will need to register again. You can go to the school website, click on "Parents," and then scroll down to "Weather Closings" and follow the instructions. You can also go directly to the site:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/IAEDU0108/subscriber/new?qs=CODE_RED

If there is ever a delayed start to school on a Wednesday, there will not be an early dismissal for teacher professional development that same day.

Winter Sports Starting Soon

Our winter sports season will be starting soon. Practices for basketball, wrestling, and cheerleading will be starting as early as the first week of November. If students did not get a physical prior to the fall sports seasons, they will need a physical on file before they are able to begin practicing.

RMS Academic Eligibility Policy

Students who participate in extracurricular activities and school-sponsored clubs and organizations will be subject to the Riverbend Middle School Academic Eligibility Policy: *Student grades will be checked every two weeks. All graded classes are included under this policy. If a student has one "F" at a grading checkpoint, he/she will be ineligible for a minimum of one week. If grades are passing after one week, he/she will regain eligibility. If not, they remain ineligible until grades are passing. While a student is ineligible, they must attend four study tables per week. Study tables will be from 7:45 – 8:15 a.m. and 3:20 - 3:50 p.m. All extra-curricular activities and before / after school clubs will be included in this policy. A student who is academically ineligible will be able to practice with his/her athletic team, and even travel with the team for competition, but will not be able to compete while ineligible.*

RMS Tardy Plan

Riverbend Middle School has a tardy policy in place to assist in motivating students to get to class on time. Students who arrive to class late without an excuse will receive a lunch detention. In addition, students who accumulate a pattern of tardies will have additional consequences:

- 7: Call Home
- 10: 20-minute detention after school
- 15: 50-minute detention after school
- 20: 1/2 -Day In-School Suspension
- 25: Full-Day In-School Suspension