



CHARLES S. RUSHE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home of the Ravens

David Salerno, Principal

Ronald Michalak, Assistant Principal

Rachel Zick, Assistant Principal

September/October 2012

Volume 5, Number 1

Ronald Bruno, Assistant Principal

Dear Raven Families:

I am very grateful to our students, parents, and staff for helping get the 2012-2013 school year off to a great start! As I visit classrooms, I see that students have settled in nicely and are focused and engaged in their learning.

Once again, we enter the school year as an "A" rated school –for the fifth consecutive year since our school opened! This honor is due in large part to the hard work of our students, teachers and staff. It is also a reflection of the support and high expectations of our families and community in placing an emphasis and priority on the education of our children!

Our focus this year is on incorporating the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) into our curriculum. The CCSS, which will be implemented in 44 additional states, will better prepare our students for post-secondary education and the next generation of the American workforce. The standards differ from the current standards in that they are focused more on exposing students to complex text and engaging them in writing about what they are reading. The move to CCSS will also bring about changes to our state (and nation's) testing, as we move toward new assessments known as PARCC – Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers. These 'end of course' exams will measure students' mastery of content taught in all subject areas to ensure all students are meeting the standards. I am excited about these changes and the positive impact they will have on our children and on our nation's future!

Again, thank you for a great start to the school year. I look forward to continued success. And...

...Always remember – We are Ravens and Ravens soar to success!

David Salerno, Principal

Guidance News

Welcome to school year 2012-2013 at Rushe Middle School. Our guidance department will be doing many classroom presentations, the first dealing with bullying issues. By definition bullying is a repeated unwanted act involving an imbalance of power that occurs over time. If your child is experiencing bullying issues, please contact your child's guidance counselor: 8th grade, Ms. Carter; 7th grade, Mr. Snyder; and 6th grade, Ms. Wolfe. Guidance website has helpful information on current events related to Guidance, study skills, test taking strategies, counselor introductions and helpful links to other resources. To access all of this, go to the Rushe homepage (csrms.pasco.k12.fl.us) and click on the Guidance Department link on the right side of the page.

Check Out Procedures

Please follow these procedures when taking a student out of the building or volunteering. You will need to have your drivers license in order to do both. No student should be checked out after 2:30 p.m.

Great American Teach-In

This year we will have our sixth annual Career/Great American Teach-In Day on November 14! We invite parents and local community members to come to school and talk with our students about their jobs/careers and hobbies. We feel this event benefits our students by learning about a variety of careers and interests and their relationship with school.

Would you consider coming to Rushe and spending part of the day or a whole day with us? If so, please email back to jswitzer@pasco.k12.fl.us or call 813-346-1200. You will be assigned to a teacher to present to their classes for the time you are here, or if you have a preference, please give us the teacher's

name. Each class is approximately 50 minutes long. Feel free to bring handouts and/or props. All presenters and anyone accompanying you must complete the District Online Volunteer Application on our school website. Select the **Parents Tab**, from our homepage, then go to the [Sign up to Volunteer Tab](#) on the side bar.

Drama Club

Drama Club is off the ground and running for this school year. Auditions for the spring play have already begun, but there are still opportunities for students to audition for the cast as well as stage crew. Auditions will be from 9/17 through 9/27. Please see Mrs. Chase in room 348 or email her at achase@pasco.k12.fl.us for information. Our practices will be on Wednesdays, the first being October 10th, from 3-5 pm.

Volunteer Applications

We had many wonderful staff and parents that volunteered for Rushe during the last school year. If you would like to volunteer for Rushe for the 2012/2013 school year, please go to www.pasco.k12.fl.us and

complete the volunteer application. A new application has to be completed each year.

2012/2013 Cheerleading Squad

Congratulations to the following Ravens that made Cheerleading for the 2012/2013 school year.

Elizabeth Arango, Katie Berg, Sydney Black, Arielle Boone, Taylor Broderick, Samantha Danahy, Destiny Gaines, Kayle Holland, Hayley Keyes, Marissa Mallozzi, Taylor McKown, Mallory Mock, Ashley Morrow, Mikiah Peebles, Madison Riggle, Deoris Rodriguez, Jessica Rogofsky, Cailyn Ruff, Andrea Silver, Sharis Tejada, and Zhyra Young. The Coach is Heather Sidlauskas.

Raven Football Team for 2012 School Year

Congratulations to the following students that will be representing our Rushe Football team this year: Tony Papas, Greg Tyson, Brenden Jones, Tyler Jackson, Justin Metzger, Chris Paduani, Luis Valentin, Tristan Donaldson, Kolby Stoltz, Justin Hall, Christian Carrera, Rakeem Jones, Jabriri Davis, Javy Cordero, Michael Reyes, Tyler Estep, Erik Ortiz, Josh Hoppe, Ryan McCauley, Chris Galdos, Wes Womack, Jacob Ortiz, Nick Speer, Connor Davey, Jacob Blum, Ryan Kasper, Camden Roth, Justice Goodloe, Andrew Riddle, Nick Dieguez, Austin Simons, Carson Reavis, Blake Porter, James Perez, and David Ogbekhilu. Head Coach is Mike Hill with Assistant Coaches Will Fields and Jerry Scott. Our teacher and parent volunteers are Dan Ares, Michael Davis, Jeremy Sidlauskas, William Bimbo, John Collodo, Ben Hedblom, and David Szymanski.

Girls Volleyball 2012/2013 Team

7th Grade: Mykenzie Roberson, Megan Seubert, Victoria Valentine, Elizabeth Spalding, Camryn Gowing, Ivonne Figueroa, Gracie Walther, Riley Smith, Tiffany Berg, Mariah Melendez, Jessica Leon, Carla Salazar, Player Manager: Catherine Aller. Coach is Susan Smith.

8th Grade: Hannah Presson, Neilyne Garcia, Nelly Diaz, Devin Dougherty, Kenzie Appell, Kelsey Stor, Sabrina Langer, Riley Morrison, Madison Silvest, Emily Schoonover, Colby Coats, Shelby Lansing, Sydney Maust, and Anna Eastly. Coach is Crystal Flatley.

Student Attendance

Please note that family vacations or pleasure trips do not meet the criteria to be considered an excused absence. Therefore, all letters notifying us of a student's absence will be used for information purposes only but will not excuse a student's absence. Florida

Statute 1003.21 governs compulsory school attendance of children 6 to 18 years of age. Excused absences are defined as: Illness of a student (presenting the school with a statement from the child's doctor), Death or seriousness illness of an immediate family member, Court hearings.

Technology Club

Technology club will start on Thursday, September 27th from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. Robotics will start Thursday, October 4th. They will be every other week on Thursdays this year.

Dates to Remember

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| September 17 | Volleyball PVMS @ Rushe 6:00 pm |
| September 18 | SAC Meeting @ 4:00 pm/Media Football Rushe vs Centennial at SLHS 6:30 pm |
| September 19 | Volleyball Rushe @ Pasco Middle 6:00 pm |
| September 21 | Progress Report to Students |
| September 24 | Volleyball Rushe @ John Long Middle 6:00 pm |
| September 25 | Football Rushe vs Pine View @ LOLHS 6:30 pm |
| October 1 | Volleyball Rushe @ Pine View Middle 6:00 pm |
| October 2 | Football Rushe vs Pasco Middle @ SLHS 6.00 pm |
| October 3 | Volleyball TEWMS @ Rushe 6:00 pm |
| October 9 | Football Rushe vs JLMS @ WRHS 6:30 pm |
| October 16 | Football Rushe vs RBSMS @ SLHS 6:30 pm |
| October 22 | No School for Students |
| October 23 | Rushe Chili Cook Off 6:30-8:30 pm |
| October 29 | Report Cards to Students |

District School Board
of Pasco County
Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent
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