



Robert Urbanovich  
Principal

## RIVER DELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

230 Woodland Avenue  
River Edge, NJ 07661  
(201) 599-7200



John Jasinski  
Assistant Principal

---

February 15, 2024

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians:

Greetings, Hawk Families! Reminder that Winter Recess starts Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> and runs through the week. Classes will resume February 26<sup>th</sup>.

Tomorrow, the middle school will take part in a passion project for Hawk Day. This will have no impact on our regular start time or dismissal time. Each student will experience two sessions led by faculty/staff members between 1:30 and dismissal. The events planned will affect lunch start times. Students in grade 7 will report to lunch at 10:38 and students in grade 8 will report at 11:18.

For those who noticed the recent Superintendent's Winter Newsletter, please note that the Middle School Drama Performance is scheduled for March 27<sup>th</sup> and not on April 27<sup>th</sup>, as listed. My apologies for the error.

Currently, lost and found items remain displayed in the front lobby. Soon after we return from winter recess, these unclaimed items will be donated. Please speak with your student and ask if they are missing a jacket, clothing, a water bottle, Tupperware, etc. We have quite a collection at the middle school as you can imagine. I encourage our students to label their belongings so that if misplaced, we can find the rightful owner. I ask that you reinforce this request at home.

Student backpacks have taken over the classrooms and cafeterias of the middle school. Attempts to convince students to use their lockers as intended have not gone as well as I had hoped. We will institute a backpack-free week April 15<sup>th</sup> to try and remedy this issue. I will make an announcement to all students upon return from winter recess to start becoming familiar with their lockers. The number and combination can be found in the Parent Portal, so I ask that you help your student find this information as needed. The plan is to slowly ensure that our students can find their locker, successfully open their locker, and fit their items inside the locker so that during the week of April 15<sup>th</sup>, all backpacks remain in lockers during the school day. Students who struggle will receive support from teachers, counselors, administration, or other students so they are prepared for our "no backpack week". Any student who is still unable to open their locker will have an alternate option that we will discuss on an individual basis as mid-April approaches.

**Calendar of Events:**

<b>February 19 – 23: Winter Recess</b>	<b>March 21: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Semi-Formal 6PM</b>
<b>March 6: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Orientation 7PM</b>	<b>March 22: French 1B Trip</b>
<b>March 6 – 8: RDMS Drum Circles (In school)</b>	<b>March 27: Drama Club Program 6:30PM</b>
<b>March 11 – 15: Book Fair (In school)</b>	<b>March 29: Good Friday – no classes</b>
<b>March 12: HS Electives Assembly (In school)</b>	<b>April 1 – 5: Spring Recess</b>

Have a wonderful winter recess!

Best Regards,



Robert Urbanovich  
Principal, River Dell Middle School

