#### TWO RIVERS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

# BACK TO SCHOOL WELCOME PACKET

MIDDLE SCHOOL 2022 - 2023



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM	1
SUPPLIES & UNIFORMS	5
BACK-TO-SCHOOL CHECKLIST	7
REQUIRED FORMS	8
OPTIONAL FORMS	9
IMPORTANT READING	10
SCHOOL CALENDAR	11
SAMPLE SCHEDULE	12
6G NORTHBAY	13
SUMMER BRIDGE	15
SCHOOLWIDE ALLERGEN ALERT	16
CREW LISTS	17
ALPHABEST BEFORE AND AFTERCARE	23
PARENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (PSA) WELCOME	24
PARENTSQUARE GUIDE	27
COMMUNICATION CHANNELS	30
CONTACT INFORMATION	31

### **BACK-TO-SCHOOL CHECKLIST**

Families should complete all required and appropriate items by August 15

Supplies
Schoolwide Allergen Alert
\*Permission to Administer
Medication

Immunization and Medical Records
Tech Agreement (new families)
\*AlphaBEST Before and Aftercare

\*Parental Medicaid Consent
\*Parental Medicaid Consent
\*School Lunch Program

Summer Bridge dates

\*COVID Opt-Out of Testing
\*denotes optional items

## LETTER FROM YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

## DEAR TWO RIVERS MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES,

I am excited to partner with you and our middle schoolers for the 2022-2023 school year to help all of our students reach our mission: To nurture a diverse group of students to become lifelong, active participants in their own education, develop a sense of self and community, and become responsible and compassionate members of society. Our mission guides the work that we do with your children every single day. This year, we will continue our focus on students becoming leaders of their own learning. We will facilitate more opportunities for community building, student leadership, and grappling with real-world problems and challenging academic concepts. This school year is a continuation of the goal from last year to recover and accelerate learning while also rebuilding our school culture now that we will have 300 students enrolled!

I am humbled to have the opportunity to lead the middle school again this school year. As principal, my job and charge is to ensure academic quality and access, guide teachers' professional development, ensure equity, mitigate injustice, and nurture a culture of lifelong learning and relentlessly high expectations. My goal this school year is a continuation of the goal from last year to recover and accelerate learning while also rebuilding our school culture of crew with our 300 students and their families! The spirit of crew -"We are crew, not passengers" - is what must guide all of us this year. I look forward to partnering with you to strengthen the middle school community, and continuing to learn and lead alongside the fabulous educators of the middle school.

#### How can you help strengthen the middle school community?

- Attend school-wide events. Student-Led Conferences, Showcase of Learning, PSA meetings, sports events, Spanish Night, Community Meeting, etc. Even when our children are older and more independent, they need you to be involved in school (maybe even more)!
- Communicate and collaborate. Read all crew leader and principal newsletters, use ParentSquare, email, volunteer as an expeditions expert, coordinate grade level celebrations, attend re-entry meetings, etc. When families and school teams are communicating and working in concert our children thrive.
- Model problem solving and growing your brain. I expect all students to be problem solvers and to be lifelong learners. Talk to them about how you solve problems in your daily life, and are still learning and growing. Ask them about how they are engaging in classes by having asking about the scholarly habits they are working on or the learning target for that day.

## LETTER FROM YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Limit social media and cell phone use. Middle school is a time when students use social media more often to talk to each other and we know that adolescence is time where children engage in more risky behaviors. The vast majority of social conflict from the 2021-2022 school year started or was instigated via cell phones/social media. Set time limits and parameters for use of cell phones and check their social media accounts regularly. During the school day students will NOT have access to their cell phones. Please email or call the front desk if you need to contact your child during the school day.
- Time & attendance matter. Make sure that your students get to school at 8:30am. (8:45am is tardy) Every day students have very important work to do and their presence matters!
- Sleep & Predictable Schedule. Studies show that children need adequate sleep in order to learn and grow. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends 8-10 house a night for middle school students. Even middle schoolers need a bedtime! Keeping a predictable routine will help them be happier and ready for learning every day.

#### **Important updates:**

#### **Building Crew and Community**

Our first opportunity to connect as a school family will be at **Summer Bridge (for ALL grades), Young Campus Potluck, Back to School Conferences.** More information about the dates, times, and procedures for our welcoming activities is forthcoming. Please be on the lookout for a school newsletter with more details!

#### Arts Electives

We want to honor student choice by allowing students to choose their arts classes. Please have your child rank their arts class preferences using this <u>form</u> by **Friday**, **August 5**, **2022**.

#### Important Arrival/Dismissal Change

The middle school arrival window is 8:30-8:45 and students are released at 3:30, except for Wednesdays which are 8:30-1:30 Wednesday. The later start and shorter school day is more developmentally appropriate for middle school students. Additionally, students with siblings at the Young Elementary will be able to drop siblings off without being late to school. Aftercare is available for Middle School students this year through AlphaBEST. For fees and enrollment, see the flier contained in this Back-to-School Packet.

#### Communication from Principal Muronji

You can expect to receive a newsletter from me four times throughout the school year (once per quarter), office hours, mobile principal's office (office hours in various locations throughout the city), and greeting students every morning at our front doors.

## LETTER FROMYOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

#### Middle School Specific Information

While Two Rivers is one community, middle school is unique. There is a lot of middle school-specific information that will be posted to the website during the month of August. Some things you can expect to find: My High School Search Calendar, Middle School Math, Middle School Spanish, Grading in Middle School, Passage Portfolio, and Labs & Intervention Program.

We are each extremely excited to serve students, teachers, and families to reach our goals for this school year. It is with tremendous pride that I introduce the 2022-2023 middle school leadership team. I'd like to welcome our newest members, Ms. Maggie and Ms. Ashley, to the team!

#### Maggie Fatovic, Campus Director of Special Education

Maggie will be assuming the newly-created role of Campus Director of Special Education. Maggie will be partnering with the school leadership team, teachers, and families to strengthen equity and access for students with diverse learning needs. This will be Maggie's first year in this role. She joins Two Rivers with nearly 20 years of experience in special education and school leadership. She began her career as a special education teacher in Washington, D.C. while earning a Masters in Education at University of Virginia. After a decade in the classroom, Maggie worked as an intervention coordinator, working with teachers to develop plans for students. Just recently she spent 4 years in Costa Rica working at a bilingual school serving as both special education teacher and assistant director, helping to reopen the school during the pandemic. Maggie enjoys spending time outdoors and traveling; she is happy on any beach! She is excited to join Two Rivers as the Campus Director of Special Education!

#### Ashley Stone, Assistant Principal of Instruction

Ms. Ashley received a B.A. in Child Psychology and Public Health from Vanderbilt University and a Master's in Educational Leadership from The George Washington University. Ms. Ashley became an educator by way of Teach for America, and this is her thirteenth year in education and eighth year in school leadership. Prior to joining the Two Rivers Crew, she served as an Assistant Principal in Washington, D.C. for two years. Before becoming a school administrator, she taught at the early childhood, elementary, and middle school levels. Ms. Ashley loves the challenge of learning the names of all the students and families in her school community; and, above all, she enjoys collaboration, creativity, and making learning fun.

Ashley Stone is a native of Atlanta, Georgia. She currently lives in Alexandria, Virginia with her husband and son. She enjoys reading, acting, traveling and spending quality time with her family.

#### McKenzie Baecker, Assistant Principal of Culture

For the past five years, she's been a member of the Two Rivers crew as both a teacher and a leader. Her career at Two Rivers began as the 7th and 8th grade science teacher, where she found much joy in leading

## LETTER FROMYOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

students through engaging, hands-on learning experiences.

While she loved teaching the content of science, her favorite part of being in the classroom was leading a crew. The connections made with students and their families stay near and dear to her heart, long after the students left her classroom. Last school year, she had the opportunity to learn alongside the Assistant Principal of Culture as an assistant principal in training. She is excited to cultivate a culture of crew throughout our school community in service of students achieving academic and social emotional success. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and exploring new places with her community of friends, snuggling up on the couch with a good book and a cup of coffee, and baking cookies and desserts to share with others.

#### Muronji Inman-McCraw, Principal

Ms. Muronji comes from a family of passionate educators and artists in the Washington, DC area. She has carried on that tradition by earning a Masters in Special Education and Human Development from George Washington University and a BA in Communications and Theatre with a minor in African American Studies from Temple University. She is ABD (all but dissertation) status at University of Pennsylvania and will be Dr. Inman in 2023. Before joining the middle school in the 2019-2020 school year as principal, she served as interim assistant principal at the 4th Street ES campus. Ms. Muronji served the D.C. Special Education community for 6 years while simultaneously pursuing acting and raising two beautiful boys, Malcom & Miles, with her husband Mitchell. Her family moved to New York on a leap of faith in 2011, which allowed her to continue her career serving marginalized youth with exceptionalities at Harlem Children's Zone. During her 7 years at HCZ, she served in several instructional leadership roles including special education coordinator, humanities academic coach, assistant principal of instruction, and director of curriculum and instruction. Her experience in these various roles has taught her the importance of a shared vision, reflective practice, supporting teachers as researchers and practitioners, and the value of collaboration. While pursing her school building leadership certification, her family grew to five with the birth of her son Manning in 2016. Ms. Muronji has a love/hate relationship with running, loves binge watching Law & Order SVU, and going to brunch with her girlfriends. She is excited to return to leading and learning with the Two Rivers Middle School Crew after welcoming her daughter Mia-Lyn to the world earlier this year.

#### Demetrea Joyner, Administrative Assistant

Demetrea will continue to work with Principal Muronji to support the middle school's goal of ensuring Two River's mission is possible for all students. Her work is primarily focused on supporting the daily operations of the middle school and keeping Principal Muronji available for the important work of implementing the middle school vision and priorities.

## LETTER FROMYOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

We can be reached at 202-388-3177, ParentSquare or by email. We look forward to working with you to maintain a safe and joyful learning environment where all students are growing as critical thinkers, problem-solvers, and contributors to a better world.

Sincerely,



Muronji Inman-McCraw Principal minman@tworiverspcs.org



McKenzie Baecker
Assistant Principal of Culture
mbaecker@tworiverspcs.org



Ashley Stone
Assistant Principal of Instruction
astone@tworiverspcs.org



Maggie Fatovic Campus Director of Special Education mfatovic@tworiverspcs.org



Demetrea Joyner Administrative Assistant djoyner@tworiverspcs.org

## **SUPPLIES & UNIFORMS**

#### **REMINDERS:**

We recognize that some families in the Two Rivers community will not be able to purchase supplies and others may be able to purchase extras. Please contribute what your family can towards classroom supplies.

#### **Supplies**

1 durable binder (3-ring, 2 inch or bigger)

7 binder tabs/dividers

1 homework folder, 3-hole punched

1 package of college ruled filler paper

2 marble notebooks

1 college ruled, black composition book

1 package of post-it notes

1 box of disposable masks

1 bottle of hand sanitizer

1 pencil pouch for binder, which includes:

- 1 pencil sharpener that catches shavings
- 1 eraser
- 1 highlighter
- 1 package of ink pens (blue or black), two pens for each month
- 2 packages of 12 pencils
- 1 package of colored pencils (at least 12)



#### Student Dress at Two Rivers

Two Rivers' uniform policy is intended to generate a feeling of unity, while allowing students some personal choice. Students are required to wear a Two Rivers uniform top at all times while in school building. However, students may wear any bottoms they choose as long as they are appropriate in length and design. Please closely review the Student Dress section of the forthcoming Family Handbook for additional dress guidance, including details about dressing for weather, footwear, and loaner uniforms.

To purchase uniforms, families can visit Two Rivers uniform and lunch store online <a href="here">here</a> starting on August 8. If you need financial support to purchase your child's uniforms, please email your assistant principal.

Please note that uniforms cannot be picked up until our physical uniform store re-opens two weeks prior to the start of school. Look for information via ParentSquare for updates. Finally, we expect a number of items to be restocked in mid-August, so don't worry if you find an item that you need is currently out of stock.



# BACK TO SCHOOL CHECKLIST

#### **REQUIRED FORMS**



#### <u>Immunizations and Medical Records</u>

Don't Delay, Schedule Today! In order to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, it is vital that all students are fully immunized before returning to in-person learning. No Shots, No School is being enforced by the Department of Health (DOH), which means that students who do not have required immunization records submitted to the school will NOT be admitted to the building to attend school. All students must have an up-to-date immunization certification on file to attend in-person learning. Please note, proof of appointment will no longer be accepted.

Additional information concerning immunization requirements for the 2022–2023 school year is below.

- School Immunization Guide
- District of Columbia Immunization Policy
- o DC Pediatric Immunization Locations

Students additionally need to have their required health certificate and dental records up to date - students who have a missing record have been notified. If you have any questions, please contact Melanie Jacobs at <a href="mailto:medical@tworiverspcs.org">medical@tworiverspcs.org</a>.

# BACK TO SCHOOL CHECKLIST

#### **REQUIRED FORMS**

Tech Agreement for TR Learning Devices [new families only]

It's critically important that if your child needs to quarantine due to COVID-19 for any reason (or we need to temporarily close), they are able to access their learning remotely from home using a device. Please complete this form to ensure that in the event of any remote learning required by COVID protocols, your child has a device prepared. The family will ensure students continue to adhere to the responsible digital citizen expectations agreed to in the **Student and Family Technology Agreement**.

Please fill out one form per child: <u>Use and Responsibility Agreement for TR Learning Devices</u>



# BACK TO SCHOOL CHECKLIST

#### OPTIONAL FORMS

#### Meals at Two Rivers

Families can purchase meals at our <u>uniforms and meals</u> <u>online store</u>. We have a new meal vendor this year and they ask families complete a <u>Meal Preference Form</u> regarding dietary restrictions and meal program selection.



Breakfast at Two Rivers is free for all students and Two Rivers participates in the National School Lunch Program, which includes free and low cost options for lunch.

We ask that ALL families interested in having their child receive meals through school complete the <u>Free and Reduced Price Meal Application Form</u> to sign up AND additionally complete this <u>Meal Preference Form</u> regarding allergies and meal program selection. For families who previously have paid for meals and have a credit in their account, please stay tuned for more information on how that will impact payment for the current school year.

#### Permission to Administer Medication

If your child needs to take medication during the school day, please use <u>this form</u> to detail your student's medication and/or medical procedure plan to be administered at school and return it to the the school nurse or <u>medical@tworiverspcs.org</u>. The School Nurse will contact you to arrange medication/medical supply drop-off. For multiple needs, complete multiple sheets.

#### Parental Medicaid Consent Form

Special education students only.

If your child receives special education services please review and complete a <u>Parental Medicaid Consent Form</u> to ensure that Two Rivers can receive appropriate federal reimbursements for certain health related services provided pursuant to your child's IEP. The form can be turned in at your school's front desk. Examples of health related services for which Two Rivers may be reimbursed include the following:

- Audiology Services/Assessment
- Behavioral Support Services
- Nutrition
- Occupational Therapy/Assessment
- Speech-Language Pathology Services/Assessment
- Orientation and Mobility Assessment
- Physical Therapy Services Assessment
- Psychological Evaluation
- Skilled Nursing Services
- Special Education Transportation Services

#### Opt-out of COVID Testing

Families can opt-out of COVID "rapid" antigen nasal testing that Two Rivers may conduct onsite using this form. The school may test students if they exhibit COVID-like symptoms during the day, if they are close contacts as part of a "test to stay" regimen, or randomized asymptomatic testing. The school may also test students if their families did not submit a COVID test result after a long holiday as a "test to return" protocol. If students exhibit symptoms and cannot be tested, they may be sent home. Please send any questions to Cade Pickette, Health and Safety Coordinator, cpickette@tworiverspcs.org.

#### IMPORTANT READING



#### A Crew Approach to Health and Safety

COVID, though not eradicated, continues to be much more manageable as vaccines and testing become commonplace. Based on changes in COVID guidance from the District, we have adjusted some of our policies but remain true to our ethic of asking everyone to do their part as we are all crew, not passengers! Read our updated <u>Crew Approach to Health and Safety</u>.

#### Five Scholarly Habits

At Two Rivers, our vibrant student culture is undergirded by five habits of mind, called <u>Scholarly</u> <u>Habits</u>, that all students thrive to master. We ask that families familiarize themselves with these same habits so that they can notice and celebrate them at home!

#### Three Dimensions of High-Quality Student Work

From its infancy, Two Rivers has remained a proud member of the EL Education network, which now serves over 400,000 students across the US with research-proven resources and equitable outcomes. <u>High-quality student work</u> is a fundamental aspect of student success (along with character-building referenced above) and is defined by work that is complex, well-crafted, and authentic.

#### Family Handbook

The Family Handbook serves a foundational document in introducing families to Two Rivers and in building a community that is centered on the mission. The 2022-23 edition will be available in early August. Last year's version can be accessed <a href="here">here</a>.

#### Commitment to Anti-Racism

Since our founding, Two Rivers has sought to nurture a diverse group of students. In recent years, we've explicitly committed to a journey to become an anti-racist organization — recognizing and celebrating both our differences and commonalities; integrating the experience and perspectives of people of color throughout our curriculum; and having courageous and empathetic conversations about race and racism with one another. Read more on our website.

## **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

The Elementary School at 4th Street and Young arrival window begins at 8:15 AM. The school day begins at 8:30 AM and ends at 3:15 PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. School begins at 8:15 AM and ends at 1:15 PM every Wednesday.

The Middle School arrival window begins at 8:30 AM. The school day begins at 8:45 AM and ends at 3:30 PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. School begins at 8:30 AM and ends at 1:30 PM every Wednesday.

The academic calendar can also be accessed at our website: https://www.tworiverspcs.org/current-families/communitycalendar/



## calendar

The Elementary School day at 4th Street and Young begins at 8:15 AM and ends at 3:15 PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. School begins at 8:15 AM and ends at 1:15 PM every Wednesday.

The Middle School day begins at October 8:30 AM and ends at 3:30 PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. School begins at 8:30 AM and ends at 1:15 PM every Wednesday.

Total number of instructional days is 180.

#### August

- 24 Back to School Potlucks
- 24-26 Summer Bridge
- 24-26 Family Conferences
- 29 First Day of School

#### September

- Labor Day no school
- 26-29 NorthBay (6th graders only)

- Professional Development Day no school for students
- 10 Indigenous People's Day no school
- 26 Fall Festival

#### November

- 3 Picture Day at 4th Street
- Picture Day at Middle School and Young
- Family Conferences early release for students
- Veterans' Day no school
- 22 Ms. Brenda's Day of Service
- 23-25 Thanksgiving Break

#### December

- 12 Community Showcase at 4th Street
- 13 Community Showcase at Young
- 19-30 Winter Break no school

#### January

- No school
- Students & Staff return from Winter Break
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday - no schoo
- Math Festival

#### January continued

- 28 Middle School Science Fair
- 31 Black Lives Matter Week of Action

#### February

- Black Lives Matter Week of Action 1-3
- Family Conferences early release for students
- 13-17 Share the Love Week
  - 17 Family Dance
- 20-24 Mid-Winter Break - no school

#### March

- 2 Literacy Night
- 6-8 Latin Dance Competition

#### April

- 13 Spanish Night
- 17-21 Spring Break no school

#### May

- 11 Welcome to Preschool Night (new families)
- 23 Community Showcase at Young
- 24 Community Showcase at 4th Street
- 29 Memorial Day no school

#### June

- 12-13 Field Days
- Family Conferences early release 14-16
  - 8th Grade Promotion
  - 15 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony at
  - 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony at 4th Street
  - Last Day of School



## SAMPLE SCHEDULE

The Middle School arrival window begins at 8:30 AM. The school day begins at 8:45 AM and ends at 3:30 PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. School begins at 8:30 AM and ends at 1:30 PM every Wednesday. Students arriving after 8:45 AM will be marked tardy.

#### **SAMPLE Middle School Schedule**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30 - 8:45*	Arrival	Arrival	Arrival	Arrival	Arrival
8:45 - 9:40	ELA Ms. Yana Rm. 108	ELA Ms. Yana Rm. 108	ELA Ms. Yana Rm. 108	ELA Ms. Yana Rm. 108	Community Meeting
9:40 - 10:35	Spanish Sra. Blanca Rm. 102	Spanish Sra. Blanca Rm. 102	Visual Art Ms. Myshia Rm. S202	Spanish Sra. Blanca Rm. 102	ELA Ms. Yana Rm. 108
10:35 - 11:35	Crew Mr. Matt Rm. 110 10:35 -11:05	Crew Mr. Matt Rm. 110 10:35 -11:05	PE Mr. Terrell Gym 10:35 - 11:30	Crew Mr. Matt Rm. 110 10:35 -11:05	Crew Mr. Matt Rm. 110 10:35 -11:05
10:35 - 11:35	Recess Mr. Matt Courtyard 11:05 - 11:35	Recess Mr. Matt Courtyard 11:05 - 11:35		Recess Mr. Matt Courtyard 11:05 - 11:35	Recess Mr. Matt Courtyard 11:05 - 11:35
11:35 - 11:50	Lunch Ms. Nialla Rm. 104	Lunch Ms. Nialla Rm. 104	Lunch Ms. Nialla Rm. 104 11:30 - 11:45	Lunch Ms. Nialla Rm. 104	Lunch Ms. Nialla Rm. 104
11:50 - 12:45	Expedition (Science or Social Studies) Mr. Matt Rm. 110	Expedition (Science or Social Studies) Mr. Matt Rm. 110	Expedition (Science or Social Studies) Mr. Matt Rm. 110 11:45 - 12:35	Expedition (Science or Social Studies) Mr. Matt Rm. 110	Expedition (Science or Social Studies) Mr. Matt Rm. 110
12:45 - 1:40	PE Mr. Terrell Gym	PE Mr. Terrell Gym	Math Mr. David Rm. 104 12:35 - 1:30**	Visual Art Ms. Myshia Rm. S202	Visual Art Ms. Myshia Rm. S202
1:40 - 2:35	Math Mr. David Rm. 104	Math Mr. David Rm. 104		Math Mr. David Rm. 104	Math Mr. David Rm. 104
2:35 - 3:30***	Reading Lab Teacher Zo Rm. 102	Reading Lab Teacher Zo Rm. 102		Reading Lab Teacher Zo Rm. 102	Reading Lab Teacher Zo Rm. 102

<sup>\*</sup>students arriving after 8:45 a.m. will be marked tardy

<sup>\*\*</sup> Wednesday dismissal is 1:30 p.m.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday dismissal is 3:30 p.m.

## **6G NORTHBAY TRIP**

Dear Sixth Grade Families,

It is with much joy and eagerness that I welcome you to NorthBay 2022. This long-held tradition has been a favorite of our middle school students year after year. I am pleased to announce that our students are now able to attend NorthBay from **September 26-29**, 2022!

This FREE, week-long trip to NorthBay, a science-adventure camp on the Chesapeake Bay, is an experience that serves as a meaningful transition from elementary school to middle school. It is at NorthBay where we become a team.

Our decision to go to NorthBay does not come lightly. Our decision included significant research and indepth conversations with NorthBay staff, specifically in response to two events during the 2021-2022 school year.

- Last year, TR students and staff of color experienced racism perpetrated by NorthBay's seasonal high school staff. When students and staff reported discrimination and microaggressions, NorthBay leadership held listening sessions and discussions directly with students impacted and committed to making long-term investments to address better the cause(s) of the racism our community experienced during this year's camp. Additionally, Two Rivers staff and students will be providing a race and equity training session to NorthBay staff in August.
- In early June, we learned that a student participating in activities at NorthBay passed away due to a medical emergency. We have had extensive conversations with NorthBay and their partners regarding the on-going investigation into this incident. After thorough review, Two Rivers has determined that NorthBay has substantial health and safety protocols, procedures, and staff to ensure they are able to prepare for and respond to emergency situations.

Should you wish to discuss these two matters further, there are two formal opportunities for you to connect with our leadership team:

- August 9, 2022 at 6:00 PM Virtual Info Session
- August 22, 2022 at 6:00 PM NorthBay Open Office Hours

We have been hard at work preparing the details of NorthBay to make it a safe and successful experience for your children and our staff. On September, 6, 2021 at 6:00 PM, there will be a mandatory meeting for the parents of students planning to attend NorthBay (more details forthcoming). We will discuss health guidelines, registration, medication, departure and arrival times, chaperones, and living quarters. Please feel free to contact me at mbaecker@tworiverspcs.org if you have any questions.

## **6G NORTHBAY TRIP**

Our leaders and all of our staff are so excited to see your children and can't wait to be together again inside our beloved school and at NorthBay!

Sincerely,

Muronji Inman-McCraw, Principal

McKenzie Baecker, Assistant Principal of Culture



## SUMMER BRIDGE

Greetings Middle School Families,

We would like to officially invite your child to attend **Two Rivers Middle School Summer Bridge Program!** Historically, summer bridge is reserved for rising 6th grade students. However, we've designed a bridge experience for all of our middle school students this year, as we recognize the crucial opportunity to review norms and expectations prior to the school year beginning. The most important aspect of Summer Bridge is an opportunity for students to connect with peers and staff in an effort to build crew.

Timing for Summer Bridge is based on your child's crew. Cew lists are included in this Middle School Back to School packet. Crew leader assignments will be forthcoming. Also new this year is a corresponding family program while your child is engaging in the Summer Bridge program. We hope families are able to join us for an opportunity to engage in our award-winning Share Your DC program and build community among fellow families and connect across differences. Families are encouraged to join us on the same day/time your child is scheduled to participate in the Summer Bridge program.

Wednesday, August 24	Thursday, August 25	Friday, August 26
6G Summer Bridge	7G Summer Bridge	8G Summer Bridge
Crews 1-3	Crews 1-3	Crews 1-3
9:00-12:00 PM	9:00-12:00 PM	1:00-3:00 PM
Crews 4-6	Crews 4-6	Crews 4-6
1:00-4:00 PM	1:00-4:00 PM	1:00-4:00 PM
Middle School Gym	Middle School Gym	Middle School Gym

We hope to see your child at Summer Bridge. We hope to see you at Share Your DC during that same block. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to give your child (and yourself) a "head start" on the year! If you have any questions about the Two Rivers Middle School Summer Bridge Program, you may email McKenzie Baecker, Assistant Principal of Culture, at mbaecker@tworiverspcs.org. We look forward to meeting your child and welcoming them to the next exciting stage of their education!

Sincerely,

Muronji Inman-McCraw, Principal

McKenzie Baecker, Assistant Principal of Culture

## SCHOOLWIDE ALLERGEN ALERT

Greetings Two Rivers Middle School Families,

As we prepare for the excitement of a new school year, we wanted to make you aware of important information regarding food items that will not be allowed due to student's severe allergies. If the child accidentally ingests these foods, she will swiftly enter life-threatening anaphylaxis. Per our family handbook, "we will do what is medically required for students with food allergies, up to and including banning specific foods from classrooms."

The following food items will not be permitted at the Middle School:

- Peanuts (including any foods containing peanuts, like granola bars or candy)
- Sesame (including any foods containing sesame, such as hummus and seaweed snacks)
- Cashews
- Pistachios

In addition to ensuring your child does not bring the above food items to school, we ask that you also help reinforce that we do not share food at school. This helps us prevent any possible allergic reactions that may arise in the event a child accidentally ingests an allergen. It also helps prevent the spread of illness, including COVID-19. Two exceptions to the no-sharing policy include potlucks and birthday celebrations. Please ensure any food items brought in for a potluck do not contain the above allergens. If you wish to bring a treat for your child's birthday, please ensure there is enough for everyone in the class.

Children suffering from food allergies are too often bullied by peers, who sometimes do not take their condition seriously. To learn more, and find resources about how to talk to your child about food allergy bullying, visit <a href="https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/bullying-prevention">https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/bullying-prevention</a>.

If your child has any allergies to food, please contact our Middle School Assistant Principal of Culture, Ms. McKenzie at <a href="mailto:mbaecker@tworiverspcs.org">mbaecker@tworiverspcs.org</a>. Thank you for helping to keep our community safe and inclusive. "We are crew, not passengers!"

Sincerely,

Muronji Inman-McCraw Liz Voyles Ty Voyles
Middle School Principal Parent Parent

## CREW LISTS - 6G



#### 6th Grade Crew 1

Aden Burns
Awesome Awe
Benjamin Teasdel
Breyah Jefferson
Cameron Ware
Cassidy Myrick
Dave Robinson
Eternity Edwards

Franklin "Coles" Henderson

Harold Thomas Kai Nesbitt

Kobichidi "Kobi" Onyike Lucette McWeeney

Nicholas Holodnak

Seryah Plight Yendor Wells

#### 6th Grade Crew 2

Ahzariah Clemmons
Blake Robinson
Charles Faison
Christopher Mickel
Dilynn Lewis
Elliott Vanderbilt
Emma Voyles
Journee Marshall
Ka'ron Pleasant
Kaden Coleman-Bennett

Kodi Jordan Nicolas "Nico" Gonzalez-Winthrop Raelyn McCrimmon

Talayha Dolberry Xavier Jefferson

Kamari Dabney

#### 6th Grade Crew 3

Alejandra Romero
Chelly Ngwa
Javaé Harris
Jayden Coates
Lamont Langston
Lexy McDaniel
Micah Anderson
Myles Mckever
Oscar Cruz Lazo
Thea Franco-Wolfe
Ke'shon Thompson
Zoey Cage
Zyaire Muldrow
Zymia Charles

## **CREW LISTS - 6G**



#### 6th Grade Crew 4

Anthony "Tony" Coomber

Arami Villalba

Billy Mendez-Perez

Cameron Ware

Chance "Luke" Veney

Chelsy Ngwa

Israel Taylor

Micah Kinney

Mila'N Brown

Phoebe Long

Royce Greene

Santana Bryant

Topaze Hawkins

Wayne Palmer

William Jones

Zoe Crosson

Zoii Brown

#### 6th Grade Crew 5

Aiden Bostick

Aston Newell

Beatriz Ordonez

**Bobbi Simms** 

Grace Flowers

Hayden Elsner

India James Fiala

Jae'lah Darby

Kennedi Brown

Leo Otero

Lilian Walton

Michael Bryant

Music Freeman

Pierre Queen

Sincere Barnes

#### 6th Grade Crew 6

Amir Jabali-Nash

Cameron Cassell

Carli Hall

Carter McClain

Charles Goldfuss

Chris Thompson

Daniel Omilana

Daria Williams

Ella Bishop

Emerson Reiling

Kerin Jones

Maia Birkmeier

Paris Whitaker

Raizon-Love Battle

Rashaad Short

Taj Hansford

Unique Browne

## **CREW LISTS - 7G**

# crewlist

#### 7th Grade Crew 1

A'Den Brown Aaron Williams Denim Robinson Deonte Davis Juniper Lindamood Justus Turner Maya Rushing Nandi Clark Rico Myers Ryan Kitt Samuel Lopata Sariah Smith Sebastian Stankard Serenity Simon Trinity Williams Yuri-Gabrielle Ali

#### 7th Grade Crew 2

A'Dairion Brown Addyson Kennedy Alexander Rowe Amari Jackson Bolanile Aten-Ra Damari Venable Emonn Bowie Gabrielle Boulin Jairus Turner James Riley-Walker Juan McCants-Pearsall Keshay Charles Lucas Caraballo Merrick Weitz Nyjeeh Williams Robert Schafer Tabitha Christopher

#### 7th Grade Crew 3

Amari Mines Caleb Freihage Da'Naria King Elijah Feiock-Golden Garrison Pittman Heaven Brown Jashon Pendergast Jaylen Harper Jordyn Ginyard Joseph Foskett Kenadie Brown Nevae Collins Semaj Demetrius Tristan Flowers Keon Wallace Serena Strong Taraji Willis

## **CREW LISTS - 7G**

# crewlist

#### 7th Grade Crew 4

Aaron Hill

Adedoyin (Samuel) Omilana

Ameera Manneh

Arafat Omijori

Atticus Finch Chloe Doung

Christopher Swinney

Jasper Delicath

J'ziyah Lattimore

Kaleb Murray

Khanazi Wells

Khari Mack

Mikayla Bowmen

Nyemah Kitt

Paris Egbarin

Riley Burton

Zoe Oksala

#### 7th Grade Crew 5

Ada Eversmann

Aidan Mitchell

Amari James

Amelia Elsner

Amity Holden

Brandon Shackelford Jr.

Derrick Counts

Elijah Redd

Jaiden Kelley

Lauren Hubbard

Serena Davidson

Soren Park

Thecla Miller

Violet Kent

Xavier Gibson

Yani Fareed - Cole

#### 7th Grade Crew 6

Amir Goodman

Antuan Queen

Brooklyn Reid

Cecile Nouga-Ngog

Christopher Simms

Eliot Pelton

Gabrielle Paultre

Isley Bloom

Joi Curtis

Jonathan Richie

Karmen Streeter-Golden

Mayonna Campbell

Riley Baldwin

Syeara Edmonds

Theodore Reitzke

Travis Garrison

Zoey Gaither

## **CREW LISTS - 8G**



#### 8th Grade Crew 1

Amer Jimaw
Austin Coleman
Camia Cornwell
Celiya Berry
Hazel Robin-Lerner
Joshua Harvey
Kiyomi Nugent
Kyrell Venable
Lathone Lucas Jr.
Morris Washington III
Preslee Thomas
Tranyce Lee
Tylah Lee

#### 8th Grade Crew 2

Ademidun "Joy" Omilana Davieon Browne Deana Williams Derrick Greene Fiona O'Keefe Jacobi Anderson Journi Jones Madison Bethea-Clark Omire Onyike Rahsaan Coleman Sylvana Franco-Wolf Zaiden Neal

#### 8th Grade Crew 3

Arely Neria Cole Anspacher Darriya Strother Doy Downing Gerald Rushing Jada-Mari Barnett Jalen Robinson Jasmine Durant Jasmine Harper Jayden Thompson-Vance Jessica Mendez-Perez Iustin Buchanan Kedar Tolen-Batson Kyree Jones Nikoliz Evans Zi'Yarhe Bryant

## **CREW LISTS - 8G**



8th	Grade	Crew	1
Our	OI auc	OIC W	4

# Amir Zaki Cecelia Hill Dillon Barnes Eris Busey Evelyn Kelly Mavretic Ezra Jackson Jr. Hashim Richardson Jaylen Guitierrez Joseph Bush Kurtis Yates

#### Malik Adegoke Mathias Venckus Tavahn Isaac Tyler Dolberry Zaydyn Greely

Levaeh Dickerson

#### 8th Grade Crew 5

Bre'Yon Jackson

210 1011 Judiio011
DeMarco Jones
Devyn Partin
Edward Morales
Eli McCants-Pearsall
Genevieve Thomas
Jackson Craddock
Jonae Harris
Kamora Moore
Malai Johnson
McKenzie Simpson
Miley Monroe
Nyomi Williams
Piper Rondelli
Rami Rammach
Steve Johnson

#### 8th Grade Crew 6

Amir Beckford Amora Prunty Brandon Mingo Demi Bowen Doshima Donga Jason Williams Jr. Kamrin Milam Louisa Jensen Messi Lavodrama Nehru Davenport Payten Eades Preston Curtis Richard Thompson III Robert Gibson Saidat Kehinde Zameer Williams

## LPHABEST BEFORE **ND AFTERCARE**

## **After School** is where adventure begins.





#### Let's spark wonder with Two Rivers Public Charter kids!

AlphaBEST Extended Day program for before and after school

**PS\*-8G** 

AlphaBEST gives your kids more than a safe place to do their homework. We engage their minds and expand their horizons. With an innovative, experiential curriculum, we allow kids to decompress from a day in the classroom by appealing to their curious, creative natures.

Run by a high-quality, caring staff, and designed to meet the changing needs of working parents, AlphaBEST Extended Day includes:

- World Languages & Culture
- Robotics
- Homework Help
- Coding
- Snacks
- Drama
- Fitness Activities
- Sign Language And More!

So come explore with us! For hours, locations, rates and online registration, visit AlphaBEST.org/tworivers. For questions, contact lwood@alphabest.org.





# PARENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION WELCOME

Dear Two Rivers Families,

Raising children is life's ultimate expedition! Through a child's life, we parents and guardians nurture these little souls through feeding and sleeping, crawling and walking, speaking and eating, and... meeting, reading, sharing, and setting boundaries.

However, the journey of "Becoming" is not our children's alone. "Matrescence" and "Patrescence" are not common words in our culture, but they represent the precious development of adults into parents. Just as adolescence involves biological, emotional, and psychological change - so does your journey of becoming a parent and caretaker. The process deserves the same education, patience, and understanding. More often, though, parents are expected to be fully prepared and capable, social creatures - operating from biological instinct. The truth couldn't be more different.

"Sixty-six percent (66%) of parents reported being burned out."

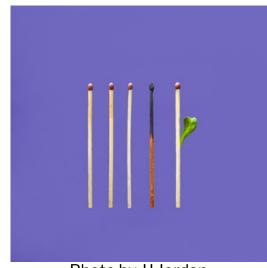


Photo by JJ Jordan

This staggering statistic was released this summer of 2022 in a study on "Parental Burnout" by Ohio State University. This means as much as two out of three parents or guardians in our own community may be returning to school in the Fall with feelings of "physical fatigue, emotional exhaustion, lack of motivation, a sense of despair, as well as a detachment from others and pleasurable activities."

The good news is the symptoms can be temporary. According to this Healthline.com article, ways to manage "parental burnout" include:

- Talking with your spouse, co-parent, or partner
- Getting enough sleep and exercise, and
- Building a support network

# PARENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION WELCOME

As a Two Rivers family, your support network is already here. As a school community, we are a network of peers. You are not alone. We're holding your space on this most special field study of life. We want to see you, particularly if you are experiencing the symptoms of burnout. If you've successfully pushed through your burnout - engage with us.

Starting in the fall, the Parent School Association ("PSA") will be hosting a variety of engagements each month - for ten months!

This includes Back to School picnic in August, Share Your DC (for all 6G families) and Beyond the Basics in October, Share the Love week in February, and the Gala in April. Each month you can also keep an eye out for casual, popup meet-ups. Find more information about the PSA on the Two Rivers website.

Let's come together this year and learn from each other on this Parenting Expedition fate has set us on. You might be the exact connection another parent or guardian needs to find.

To start this journey, we have a few questions. Please scan the QR code or follow the link to share a little bit about yourself. https://forms.gle/Hf13ycHYW2ACFUFd9

Sincerely,



**Devin Turner** Middle School PSA President



**KarenYoung** Middle School PSA Secretary



Hit us up at MS.PSA@tworiverspcs.org!

PS: Are you interested in a self-evaluation for parenting burnout? See page 9 of the report.

# PARENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION WELCOME



TWO RIVERS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

PARENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

## YEAR AT A GLANCE

2022-2023

#### **AUG**

Back to School Picnic sign-up coming soon!



#### SEP

#### amazonsmile

Use Amazon Smile and learn about other giving opportunities

#### OCT

PS, 6th: Share Your DC

Family expedition to build connections across difference

#### NOV

PSA meetings
Held all year and open to
all family members! Check
out the Parent Square
calendar

#### DEC



#### JAN

MLK Day of Service

Look out for service opportunities all year that embrace the TR mission

#### **FEB**



#### MAR

Family Crew
Attend family events all
year to build community
and crew! Movie nights,
coffees, meet-ups, +

#### **APR**



#### MAY



#### JUN

Field Days



#### YES, PLEASE!

How would you like to help?



## **PARENTSQUARE**

New families can set up their account now or wait for a ParentSquare activation link via email in early August. Returning families should continue to use their same account log-in information from last year. Please note that in late July and early August, the platform will be undergoing data updates and may be temporarily inaccessible.

Stay connected from anywhere with our

#### online portal and parent app, ParentSquare!

Get all school notifications in one place.

View only what's relevant to your student.

Never miss out again!

#### Smart Alerts!

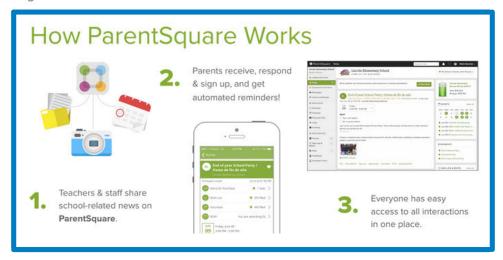
Get school wide announcements at your fingertips.

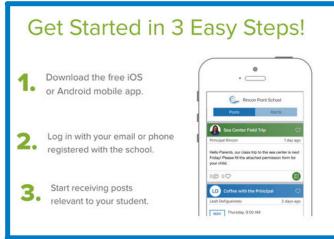
#### One Tap Participation

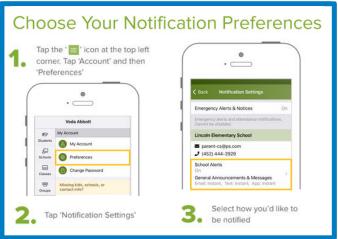
For volunteering, conferences, event RSVPs, payments, permission slips and more

#### **Two-Way Communication**

Send & receive real-time messages directly with teachers and administrators.







#### How to Make Sure You Stay Connected



Activate your account & login.



Set your notification preferences in ParentSquare.



Make sure the school has your correct email AND mobile phone number.



## **PARENTSQUARE**

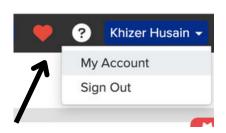
#### **TOP 2 PARENTSQUARE TIPS & TRICKS**

#### **#1: Customize Your Notification Settings**

ParentSquare is powerful and can be overwhelming if you do not customize your notification settings. Be sure to set the frequency of posts to "digest" if want once-a-day posts after close of the business day. Select your preferred language and help others in the community, too. Make directory details (your students, email, phone) hidden or visible for other families at Two Rivers.

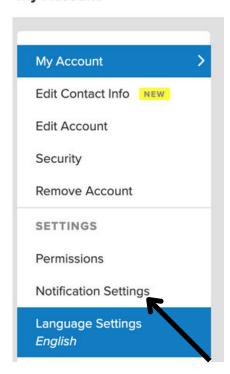
#### In web portal: Upper right corner

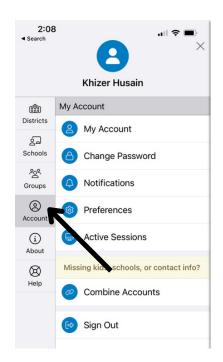
#### In app: Go to upper left corner to reveal Account menu





#### My Account

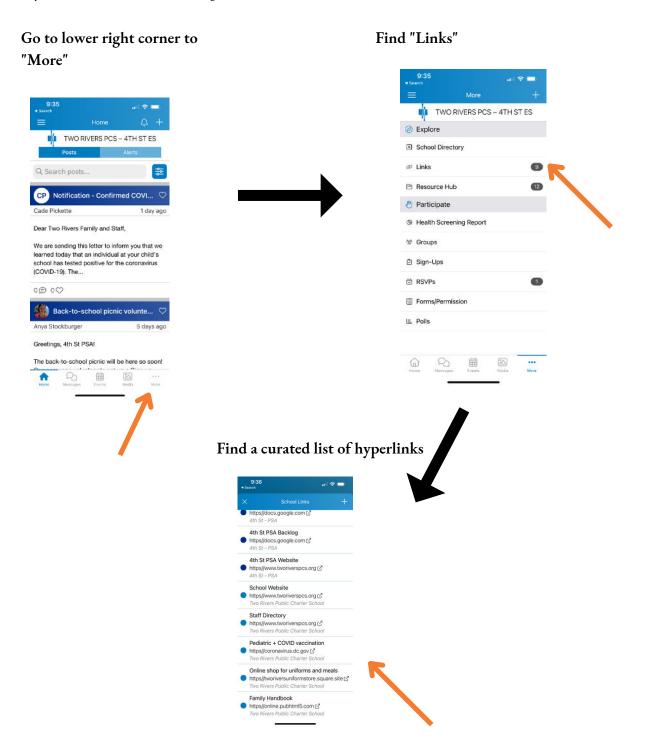




## **PARENTSQUARE**

#### #2 Access "Links" for Key Two Rivers Resources

Need to order student uniforms or lunch? What about the Family Handbook? We have created a set of "hot links" in the app so that you can access information on the go.



# COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

As we enter this new school year, we want to introduce and remind you about all the wonderful ways you can stay in touch and engage with the Two Rivers Community. We have three main communication channels for you to stay connected:

#### **ParentSquare**

Our "all-in-one" family communication app and web portal. This will be our primary communication source for families to stay connected with teachers, staff, and other families.

#### **Two Rivers Website**

Our website presents "the story" of Two Rivers - the history and mission of Two Rivers, learning approach, staff directory, policies, Board minutes. There are also campus-specific pages, which feature student work and opportunities for families to get involved.

#### **Social Media**

Have you given us a follow yet? Our Instagram accounts are sources for bonus content! We celebrate joy throughout the schools, highlight student learning, and share information about community events.

#### **PARENTSQUARE**

- Primary communication source
- Trib, the TR newsletter, sent every Tuesday
- Links to uniform/meal store, calendar, etc.

www.parentsquare.com/signin

#### WEBSITE

- Story of Two Rivers, staff directory, calendar
- Policies, Board minutes
- Parent School Association info for getting involved

www.tworiverspcs.org

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

- Additional information and highlights
- Celebrating joy, student work, and community stories
- Instagram, Twitter, Facebook

@tworiverspcs.org [Network]
@trmsjoy [Middle School]
@go.trconnect [Alumni]

## CONTACT INFORMATION

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Muronji Inman-McCraw Principal minman@tworiverspcs.org

McKenzie Baecker Assistant Principal of Culture mbaecker@tworiverspcs.org

Ashley Stone Assistant Principal of Instruction astone@tworiverspcs.org

#### **MEDICAL RECORDS**

Melanie Jacobs Student Records Associate medical@tworiverspcs.org

#### **ADDITIONAL CONTACTS**

**Dr. Kristina Kyles-Smith** *Executive Director*kksmith@tworiverspcs.org

Aurora Steinle Chief of Staff asteinle@tworiverspcs.org Maggie Fatovic Campus Director of Special Education mfatovic@tworiverspcs.org

Demetrea Joyner Administrative Assistant djoyner@tworiverspcs.org



Fatima Graham
Student and Family Empowerment
Coordinator
fgraham@tworiverspcs.org

Asia Bell Registrar abell@tworiverspcs.org