



RAMS CONNECT

Augusta Raa Middle School
Raa Pride – Ram Tough!

Volume 5, Issue 4

May 6, 2020

LEAD – INSPIRE – SERVE

Hello Ram Nation!!!

We are just THREE weeks from wrapping up the school year and my staff and I truly have appreciated your patience as we all work to navigate through the distance learning platforms and provide as much support as possible as we all navigate through our new normal. I know that each of our families are working hard to not only take care of the day to day operations of their homes and finances, but also to take care of the mental and social well-being of each of your respective young Rams and it is truly appreciated. We are going to continue to take the upcoming weeks one day at a time and work to continue to grow and engage in academic content as best we can.

Below are several important updates and reminders as we move into these last few weeks:

LEARNING PACKET UPDATES:

Please begin to return all completed hard copy packets from Weeks 1 – 6. Starting **Monday, May 4th between 8am and 2:30pm** we will be staging collection bins outside the front office doors for families to begin returning hard learning packets that need to be graded. Packets may be returned Monday - Friday between these times from May 4th - May 22nd. The front office and campus will remain closed to the public, but families may begin submitting work from Weeks 1 - 6. ***Please ensure that packets have the students name and the teachers name on the front cover.*** Packets may also be scanned and emailed or submitted through Teams to teachers for grading.

We are still in the process of mailing out additional work for students as it is developed by teachers

each week to cover the next several weeks of instruction. We are also anticipating our last day of collection of paper copies of assignments to be Friday, May 22nd so that items can be stored for the recommended 3-5 days in our plastic bins before being handled and graded.

GRADING UPDATES:

Remember, students still need to earn their 4 quality points in their each of their classes for the year in order to be promoted to the next grade level. Each letter grade is assigned a certain number of quality points (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0). Now is a great time to assess where your student is and contact the teachers/guidance office if you have questions or concerns about how you can best support your student at home.

ATTENDANCE:

Our LCS Distance Learning Attendance Practice started on April 21st. **Every TUESDAY, teachers will mark attendance for any student they have been in contact with for the PREVIOUS WEEK.** Teachers have communicated with their students about their check-in process and in many cases, this has been in the form of checking Remind, Email, Teams, or making a phone call. Students will have attendance taken in each class period so please work to check in at least one time during the week with each teacher of record. **We had a 92% attendance rate school-wide for last week so continue to stay engaged Rams!!**

ELECTIVE COURSE REQUEST FORMS:

Elective request forms for the 2020-2021 school year have been placed on the Raa Website. Go to the Guidance Page under the Departments Tab for

directions. Information will also be sent to parents and students via list serve email.

Additional copies of elective request forms will be available for pick up outside the Raa Front Office starting Monday, May 11th. Teachers will complete recommendations for academic placements in core classes online. **Please see Course Recommendation Guide and Elective Course Descriptions to assist with the request process.**

Completed elective request forms can be scanned to Mrs. Van Camp at RaaScheduling@leonschools.net or return them to the Raa Front Office (drop off) or mail: 401 West Tharpe Street Tallahassee, FL 32303.

SUMMER READING & VIRTUAL BOOK FAIR:

Shopping Days: 5/5 - 5/18

New online shopping experience is now available. Our school now gets access to the popular Scholastic Store! Shop from a huge selection of educational products, games, crafts, and kits. All orders ship home, and Raa will earn 25% in rewards on purchases made during this Fair. Parents can store money on an eWallet account, accessible now, so students have a spending limit and any money not used is refunded.

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/raamiddleschool>

For parent and students that would also like to take advantage of our OPTIONAL Summer Reading novels you may also purchase these now through the virtual book fair! See attached flyer for book options.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS LESSONS:

Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations and this situation is definitely unique and bring about many unknown elements. As hard as it may be and as much as teens may want to have additional freedoms, structured routines and schedules are great ways to minimize anxiety and provide systems for processing information. Identify what may work for you and your home and remember to continue to keep our Raa Rams on as much of a routine as possible. Below are several

links and resources that students and parents may also access for the month of May as part of the state legislation regulating mental health education for students in grades 6 -12.

Child Trafficking

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sucaoX_6ZIM&feature=player_detailpage

Substance Abuse

Everfi Prescription Drug course located in your child's Classlink Account

For more information about EVERFI Mental Wellness Basics visit <http://bit.ly/2KkxdnN>

Appointment Consultation for Raa Families with students who have ADHD, Anxiety, Depression, or other challenges

Our School Psychologist, Rebekka Istrail, is also available to consult with families of students with ADHD, Anxiety, Depression, or other challenges. Specifically, she would love to offer an opportunity for you to speak with her about issues you and your child may be experiencing while trying to balance your daily lives and Distance Learning from home. Students with mental health struggles (as well as ALL children) can find this experience particularly difficult. Mrs. Istrail is available to consult with you and brainstorm, provide resources, and/or problem-solve with you.

If you are interested, please use the following sign-up to schedule a phone consultation. Know that sign-up is confidential and only the School Psychologist will have your information.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084ca5a822a2f49-consultation>

END OF YEAR RECOGNITIONS:

Traditionally, during the last week of school we set aside time to recognize our scholars for their accomplishments during the school year as well as wish our 8th grade class much success as they transition to high school. As a faculty and staff, we would like to still ensure that students who have worked hard this year are recognized for their

dedication and resilience so we will be coordinating efforts to still generate certificates of accomplishments to be mailed to respective students. We will also publish several media campaigns to recognize students and 8th grade promotions during the last week of school. We are proud of our Raa Scholars and are looking forward to great things to come from them as they continue to grow and mature.

STAY CONNECTED:

If you have not already done so please subscribe to our social media platforms on Facebook or Instagram, subscribe to our email Listserve group by going to our school website, and join us for Remind101 text alerts by **Texting @raarams19 to 81010.**

MEDIA CENTER ON THE MOVE:

Mrs. Inglett has created a virtual media center in TEAMS for each grade level with resources for Poetry, Free Digital Reading, Art Shares, Community Posts, Author Reads, Book Discussion, Virtual Museums and MORE. We are encouraging students to post and share! We are also looking to host a Virtual Book Fair in the Month of May so stay tuned for Details!! If you have library books still checked out be sure to keep them in a safe space until we can do a collection drive to turn them back in.

OTHER REMINDERS:

8th Grade Parents, please continue to submit your proof of residence documentation electronically. You can email a picture of the documents to ThomasL4@leonschools.net

8th Graders will NOT be able to retrieve their high school course schedules until address verifications have been completed.

6th Grade Parents, Immunization Records inclusive of the Tdap shot for students moving into 7th grade can be submitted electronically to ThomasL4@leonschools.net.

7th Grade students will not be able to receive their course schedule in the Fall until shot records have been updated.

We are ONE RAM NATION!!

Thank you all for your patience with this and I will work to continue to keep you posted as I receive additional information.

I STILL Love you all and there is NOTHING you can do about it!!

Sincerely,



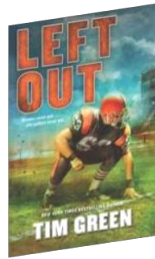
Dr. Small
Proud Principal of Raa Middle School

there are
far, far better
things ahead
than any we
leave behind
- c.s. lewis

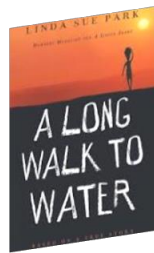
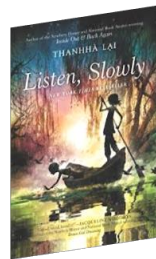
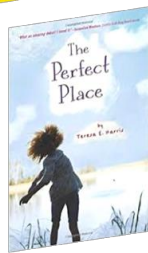


Augusta Raa Arts Magnet Middle School
Suggested/Optional Summer Reading

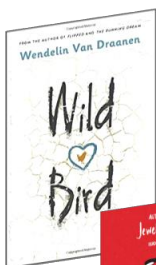
Due to last school year's circumstances surrounding COVID-19, Summer Reading will be optional. Below are several suggested books by grade level. Teachers will give some sort of assignment the first week of school. If students read any book on their grade level suggested list and complete the assignment by the due date, they will earn extra credit.



← 6th Grade



7th Grade →



← 8th Grade



MON
WITHOUT THE ARTS LIFE
WOULD "B-FLAT!"
TEXT OR EMAIL YOUR
ARTS TEACHERS
TODAY!

TUES
WE OVERCOME AND
PERSEVERE!
LOVE ON A MATH &
SCIENCE TEACHER!

RAA FACULTY AND STAFF
**APPRECIATION
WEEK** ★ ★ ★ ★
MAY 4TH - 8TH

Join us for daily picture
trivia on Facebook & IG

WED
WE GROW AND
DEVELOP!

SHARE A KIND WORD
WITH A LANGUAGE ARTS
& SOCIAL STUDIES
TEACHER!

THURS
WE SUPPORT AND SERVE
ALL RAMS!

TEXT OR EMAIL A
SUPPORT STAFF MEMBER

FRI
FACULTY & STAFF
APPRECIATION DRIVE
THRU GIFT PICK-UP
FROM 10:30-12:30 IN
PARENT PICK-UP
LINE

