



The Weekly Buzz

February 13, 2022

7th ed.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

From the Desk of Dr. Patrice T. Green

Hand's Vision: *To help all students reach high levels of achievement in a safe, secure, and positive learning environment.*

Hand's Mission: *To empower all students for greater academic and social engagement; value their journey toward high school, college and career readiness; achieve their potential, fulfill their dreams, live life to the fullest, continue lifelong learning; and provide exceptional service to make life better for themselves, their communities and humankind.*

Our Mantra: *One Hand, One Voice, serving every child, every day*





Week of February 7, 2022, designated as National School Counselor's week. We are very blessed to have:

Latriya Spain - 6th Grade School Counselor
 Bruce Davis - 7th Grade Lead School Counselor
 Leah Jones - 8th Grade School Counselor

They are the most caring, dynamic, flexible, loving, and supportive school counseling team ever!

Their unwavering commitment to our students is 2nd to none. They truly *walk* the talk of *servng every child, every day*.

We salute you HMS School Counselors – YOU ROCK!

HORNET SPOTLIGHT

Ms. Jennifer Pinckney

Ms. Pinckney has served at HMS for 4 years as our Media Specialist.

But you may not know that:

- Her favorite color is blue
- She was born in Connecticut
- She ran after a car, took pictures of the car & person who was hit... "In a hit and run" ...wow!



Ms. Jennifer Pinckney
 This week's Hornet Spotlight



February

3-28 ~ Black History Month Observance activities

16- Interim Reports

17 – Jr. Honor Society Induction (8th Grade)

Note: We have several engaging activities each month, click the link below to view the complete calendar:

<https://www.richlandone.org/Page/72#calendar39/20220205/month>



ATHLETICS

Feb. 14- Track Tryouts ~ 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

To participate, students need to have a "sports physical" dated on or after June 1, 2021.

Students also need to pay a nonrefundable payment \$20 in athletic insurance. This protects your child during the track season.

Instructions for Planets can be found under the Activities tab on the Hand page.

Please contact Coach George, jesse.george@richlandone.org, via email with any questions.

RELATED ARTS (ELECTIVE) SCHEDULE

See the attached calendar for the full week/school year):

<https://www.richlandone.org/Page/12688>





Attendance Matters

1. If your student is absent, please send an email to: kaaren.rue@richlandone.org. In the email, please include the name of your student, date of the absence, reason for the absence and attach any medical notes if applicable.
2. If you receive the auto dialer stating, "Your child has been marked absent for 2 or more class periods," please do the following:
 - Check your Parent Portal to determine which class the absence occurred.
 - Please email the teacher to determine why the student was marked absent.
 - Any other questions, please reach out to Kaaren Rue by calling the school.

Remember your student is Tardy after 8:40 am and there are No Early Dismissals after 3:00pm



Transportation (Bus) Concerns:

Please be aware that we have **no** control over the AM/PM bus arrival and departure times. If you have concerns you **should** call the Lower Richland Transportation Office, 803-695-5505, and then the school (803) 343-2947.

Enrollment Assistance

If you have questions/concerns regarding enrollment or withdrawal, you may contact Mrs. Mickens (Database Specialist), (803) 343-2947 - **Mon.-Fri. between the hours of 8:45am - 11:00am via telephone/in person.**

Moving? Email Jamie Mickens, Jamie.mickens@richlandone.org to update your records.



New Attendance Link:

We now have an attendance link on our website. This is another option for you to submit documentation when your child is absent,
<https://www.richlandone.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=13375>



District Resource – Free Virtual Tutoring Services

Tutor.com

For additional information go to:

Go to www.scdiscus.org, click on DISCUS – View Online Resources and scroll down to Tutor.com; or go to the Richland One home page (www.richlandone.org) and click on Resource Center, then click on Student Resources, click on DISCUS (Online Resources) and scroll down to Tutor.com.

Schoology Resources

To learn about our learning management platform watch this awesome video:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1vveWylqAhAtzPB4LkTOYteHmoN8qNT1naRJXe36yqUU/edit#slide=id.p>

For additional information go to:

<https://www.richlandone.org/Page/12788>

Attention-Attention!

You are invited to join Hand's school Schoology group. The purpose of the platform is to share Hand information/announcements with staff, students, and parents/guardians. This is additional informational platform.

Directions:

- 1) Log-in into your Schoology Account
- 2) Click the Groups tab
- 3) Click "My Groups"
- 4) Click "Join Group"
- 5) Enter Access Code

Access Code: T7R-XHBg-PSFRS

PTO Information

For parents interested in joining the PTO, or attending monthly meetings, please email Mr. Joshua Dundr, Assistant Principal. joshua.dundr@richlandone.org. Meetings are held virtually on the **second Tuesday of every month beginning at 5:45 pm.**

PTO Membership Drive:

See the attached link, <https://www.richlandone.org/domain/838>

Sweatshirts

We have new sweatshirts in, sizes small-XL: \$25, for additional information email Deborah Wood, deborah.wood@richlandone.org

Hand Middle School's 2nd Annual Golf Tournament:

Monday, April 25, 2022
Spring Valley Golf Course

*More information to come. *



AM & PM Guidance and Supervision



The Administration & School Counseling Team are on duty

Mon.-Fri.

7:55 am - 8:55 am

& 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

Admin. & Counselors are **not** available for meetings or to take phone calls during those times. Please send an email regarding your concerns directly to the school counselor and/or administrator who will respond either via email or phone, either the same day or within 1-2 business days. Safety and supervision are our priority, thank you for your understanding with this matter.

6th Grade

Don Butler, Administrator

donald.butler@richlandone.org

Latriya Spain, Counselor

latriya.spain@richlandone.org

7th Grade

Devin Robinson, Administrator

devin.robinson@richlandone.org

Bruce Davis, Counselor

bruce.davis@richandone.org

8th Grade

Joshua Dundr, Administrator

joshua.dundr@richlandone.org

Leah Jones, Counselor

leah.jones@richlandone.org

Communication + Collaboration = Relationship

We honor the student-parent-teacher-school relationship. Parents when you have questions/concerns about your child's classroom behavior or grades, your first point of contact should be the teacher. If you cannot reach the teacher or need additional support, then contact the grade level administrator. I am always available to provide guidance and support when needed.



*Stay Safe
and
Healthy*

COVID-19 Prevention: **STAY** home if you are sick
SAFE ~ Keep a safe distance from others
WASH ~ your hands frequently
CLEAN & disinfect frequently used surfaces
PROTECT yourself & others
For the latest District COVID updates go to:
<https://www.richlandone.org/domain/2672>

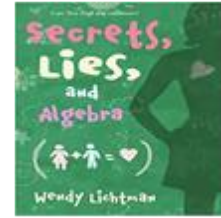
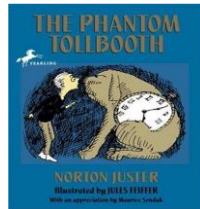
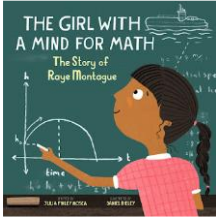
Literacy Tip

Did you know there is a powerful connection between Math and literature?

Research shows good math students can connect real-life experiences to related pictures and models. Students can also read and write about math and share ideas with others by having conversations about math.

Using books is a way to build upon these kinds of connections.

Check out some of these books involving various math concepts intertwined within their stories...



Parent & Family Engagement Tips

By: B-Linda Rogers, Parent & Family Engagement Specialist
Email: bobbi.rogers@richlandone.org

Study Skills

Parents – Does your child have good study habits? It is not too late to help your child develop study skills.

Consider these things:

- Help your child get organized
- Provide a place to study
- Help your child develop a way to keep up with important papers
- Make sure your child has a planner and uses it to keep up with assignments
- Encourage your child to estimate how long each assignment will take
- Help your child break big projects into smaller ones
- Communicate with your child's teacher
- Ask – "Did you do your homework?"
- When studying for tests – remember rereading is not the same as learning
- People are productive at different times of the day
- Sometimes we just must memorize!
- Help your child make the most of his/her time
- Make sure your child knows the basics
- Look for other sources of support
- Reflect on what works
- Help your child de-stress

If you would like more specific information on these tips please visit the website below.

<https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/study-skills-for-middle-school-and-beyond/>



From the Desk of Denise Baez, Career Specialist

Email: dbaez@richlandone.org

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your efforts in encouraging your child to participate in Job Shadow Day. I enjoyed reading our student's experiences and receiving all the amazing feedback from employees, business owners, and companies who opened their doors to our students.

If you are interested in setting up a 1 on 1 career assessment for your child, please fill out a referral form and I will follow up with all requests. - Ms. Baez, Career Specialist

Referral

Form: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mc2OcflqAoeiK-33pL7Y3YTsjFAf7dFDku8HJ-gWomBUMohBRVdVUIDVRRFFOTIYzMVpaSDYxUoZCUC4u>



Reflective Thought for the Week:

All lessons must be relevant to the students' lives ~
African Proverb

Follow us on



Make sure you stay engaged and informed by checking the

district webpage, <https://www.richlandone.org/>

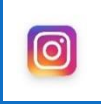
our

school webpage, <https://www.richlandone.org/Page/71>

and

connecting to our Instagram @HandMiddleSC and

Twitter @HandMiddle SC pages.



Remember...

*together we
thrive*



Hand Middle School
2600 Wheat Street
Columbia, SC 29205
(803) 253-5729