

# Ni River Middle School

The **BEST** Middle School in the World!

11632 Catharpin Rd., Spotsylvania, VA 22553

<https://www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/niriver>

T: 540-785-3990 Twitter: @NiRiverMS

NRMS Community,

I can't believe we are in February! So much has been accomplished and tremendous growth has been recorded, yet a great deal of work remains. Please note this important update on interim reports. For the remainder of the 2018-19 school year, parents and students will access accurate electronic interim grades on StudentVUE and ParentVUE on the advertised interim dates on the school calendar. If you have not gained access to your ParentVUE account, please contact Therese Carroll in counseling at (540) 785-3990 or [tcarroll@spotsylvania.k12.va.us](mailto:tcarroll@spotsylvania.k12.va.us). ParentVUE allows parents daily access to their child's grades, and it allows quick and easy communication with teachers. If any parent prefers a paper copy of the interim, he/she must opt-in to receiving a paper interim using this [link](#) OR by calling the NRMS counseling office prior to the interim date. If a parent opts in to paper interims, the interims will be printed by the teachers and sent home with the student on interim day. There will be no mailing, faxing or emailing of the paper interims.

As we turn the corner on the school year, we are beginning to plan for the 2019-2020 school year. Our current 8<sup>th</sup> graders were invited to attend the Rising Freshman Orientation Night at Riverbend High School on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and we will be hosting our Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation night on February 21<sup>st</sup>. It is great to see the excitement on the Future Falcon's faces. During the month of February students will be provided with information on course selection options for next year. Early in February, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be meeting individually with a counselor to finalize their course requests. Towards the end of the month, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be selecting courses. Please take the time to review course selections with your son or daughter to ensure his/her academic schedule is aligned with his/her goals. If you have any questions please reach out to your school counselor.

In closing, I cannot say thank you enough for the continued parental support at Ni River. Please continue to be involved and engaged in the process of educating your children. I'm looking forward to a great rest of the year!

It's A Great Day To Be A Falcon!

*Brian Bartoszek*  
Principal



## Important Dates & Upcoming Events:

Please see the [Events Calendar](#) on our School Website

- **Fri, 2/1** – PTA SouperBowl Lunch for the staff
- **Wed, 2/6** – Spotsy Career & Tech Center Open House, 5pm – 7pm
- **Thu, 2/7** – JROTC Rising Freshman Info Night @ RHS, 6pm – 7pm
- **Wed, 2/13** – Valentines Dance, 3pm – 5pm
- **Thu, 2/14** – Parent Conference Night, 5pm – 7pm
- **Fri, 2/15** – ½ Day for Students
- **Mon, 2/18** – Snow Make-up Day (A-Day)
- **Thu, 2/21** – Rising 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation Night, 6pm – 7:30pm

Please see our list of [Club Meetings](#)

## School Attendance

*~Every Day Counts~*

Please remember that anytime your student is absent to notify the school. You may do this by calling the NRMS Attendance Line (540-785-3990, option 1) and leaving a voicemail at any hour, day or night. Parents may also inform the school of an absence by emailing [Ms. Patricia Marx](#). A note is no longer required – simply a notification.

*Our goal is to stay above 97%!*

*6<sup>th</sup> Grade = 97.3%*

*7<sup>th</sup> Grade = 97.2%*

*8<sup>th</sup> Grade = 96.1%*

**Student Drop-off begins at 7:30; the school day begins at 8:00!**

*Together – we prepare our students for their future.*

## **Safety Corner: Avoid the gossip scene**

**Q:** *I recently heard my daughter talking with her friends about a rumor that's going around at school. How can I encourage her not to gossip?*

**A:** First, talk to your daughter when her friends aren't around. You could suggest that she always assume rumors are false. Point out that people who start or share them often don't even know if they're true. They may gossip because they want attention or to get revenge, for example. Then, have your tween think about how the person being talked about would feel if he overheard the gossip. Instead of staying silent, your middle grader might speak up and say, "That sounds like a rumor." She should also avoid spreading the rumor. Finally, explain that sharing rumors can cause friends not to trust her. After all, if they know she's willing to gossip, they may wonder if she'll gossip about them one day, too.

Source: Middle Years

***"Safety doesn't happen by accident"***

## **Growing Responsibility**

Picture your middle grader as a responsible young adult. How do you help him get there? Consider these ideas for planting the seeds of responsibility now so he'll grow into the dependable person you're trying to raise.

**Promote consistency:** Sticking to routines makes handling responsibilities a natural part of your tween's day. For instance, if he needs a tablet for school, he might charge it on the kitchen counter every night. Or suggest that he bring his PE uniform home on Fridays so he can wash it. **Pass the "baton":** Imagine you're in a relay race and you're passing the "responsibility baton" to your child. Make the handoff by switching from giving instructions to asking questions. Say he's getting ready for a chorus concert. Instead of telling him to put on his dress shoes and find his sheet music, try saying, "What do you need to do to get ready?"

**Discuss accountability:** Experience is an excellent teacher—and it can make your middle grader more responsible. Share an example from your own life ("I forgot about my doctor's appointment, so now I have to pay a no-show fee"). Then, explain what you learned ("I need to put appointments on my calendar right away").

Source: Middle Years

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## **Falcon Athletics Game Schedule:**

\*Note: Volleyball games start at 4:00pm

### **VOLLEYBALL:**

**Tues. Feb. 12** - Away @ POMS  
**Thurs. Feb. 14** - Home vs. SMS  
**Tues. Feb. 19** - Away @ CMS  
**Thurs. Feb. 21** - Home vs. BMS  
**Tues. Feb. 26** - Away @ FMS  
**Thurs. Feb 28** - Home vs. TMS  
**Thurs. March 7** -Home vs. POMS  
**Tues. March 12** - Away @ SMS  
**Thurs. March 14** - Tournament @ TMS



**Congratulations to your  
Ni River Wrestlers for  
their third Middle  
School  
Championship in a  
row!!!**

**Congratulations to our Boys  
Basketball on a great season!**

**GO FALCONS!**

## Counselor's Corner

All Rising 9th grade students are being introduced to the NEW electronic 2019-2020 Course Pathways for Middle and High School Students (a.k.a. Spotsy County Course Catalog) located on the county website, during their World History class. 9th Grade Course Request Forms and a Parent/Guardian letter have been sent home for review and discussion with your child. Over the next five weeks each 8th grade student will meet individually with his/her school counselor to discuss a four year Academic & Career Plan and review high school diploma options.

Current 6th and 7th grade students will start the Course Request selection process for next school year in late February. All parents and students are encouraged to review the NEW 2019-2020 Course Pathways for Middle and High School Students (accessed electronically on the county website). Students will be coming home with a Course Request Form and will hear an overview of all courses available to them for next school year.

\*\*Course selections for ALL students are done using StudentVue accounts. Parents can view their child's selections using ParentVue accounts but all selections and changes in selections can only be done using StudentVue.

## Library News

January has really flown by in the Library this year. 7th and 8th grade students have started our Computer Coding classes. 7th grade is going to have to get their Sphero's through the great maze while 8th graders will be playing a Bocce ball game with the Sphero's. The 6th grade students will begin bowling with Ozobots next month. By the end of the month all of the students will have been shown how to use NoodleTools to help them do citations for any projects that they are assigned. NoodleTools will be available for them to use for the rest of their school career in Spotsylvania County Schools. With the crazy weather hopefully we can get our book clubs back on track soon.

## Ni River Falcon Athletics

Congratulations to the Wrestling Team for their third straight county championship!!



Important Athletic Dates:

- Valentines Dance - Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 3pm – 5pm. (\$5.00 and parent note are needed to attend)
- Athletics Spring Dodgeball Tournament - Tuesday, March 5 (Flyer Attached)

Please come out and support our Volleyball Team at one of the home games this year! (\$3.00 with a parent note are needed to attend)



## **NI River PTA News:**

Would you like to be more involved with the school? Consider joining the PTA Executive Committee for the 2019-2020 school year to play a larger role! The PTA Executive Committee meets once a month from August to May and executes programs to help raise money and plan events for the school. The PTA organizes events for the teachers such as lunches, dinners and teacher appreciation events. No experience is required! The nomination committee is looking for people to fill the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Please email Dina Lotito [rjlotito@yahoo.com](mailto:rjlotito@yahoo.com) or Jennifer Miller [tjmillier2@gmail.com](mailto:tjmillier2@gmail.com) if you would like any additional information or to express your interest. Nominations are due by March 15, 2019.

**President:** Carrie Gupta  
[carriegupta93@gmail.com](mailto:carriegupta93@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Becky Degenhardt

**Secretary:** Jeannine Coefield  
[jeanninecoefield@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanninecoefield@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer:** Agnes Pearcy  
**Membership:** Alicia Schwartzman

**Please save the date! Ni River PTA is holding a yard sale on April 13. We are looking for donations. After the yard sale we will have your stuff hauled away. Proceeds will go to the PTA. Thank you for your support!!!**



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## Communication

Ni River Middle School maintains a website with current information which can help both parents and students. The web address is:

<https://www.spotsylvania.k12.va.us/niriver>

In addition to our website, other sources of information are: Channel 18, PSS, Autodialer, and monthly emails.

In order to receive information, please make sure we have your most updated email address and phone number. Please maintain updated contact information throughout the school year by contacting the School Counseling Office at 540-785-3990.

At school, daily announcements are made in the mornings and afternoons.

A monthly Falcon Flier will be sent home via email that highlights accomplishments at school and provides information on upcoming events. Also, teachers will be providing monthly email updates about topics being covered in class as well as upcoming assessments.

### FOOD SERVICES

Breakfast/Lunch Prices:

Breakfast - \$1.55

Lunch - \$2.65

Add money to your student's account from our school website! Simply click on *My Lunch Account* and set up an account.

## NRMS Bell Schedule

A1 / B7	8:00 – 9:00
A2 / B8	9:03 – 10:03
A3 / B9	10:06 – 11:06
A4 / B10	11:09 – 12:39
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch 11:09 – 11:35	
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch 11:41 – 12:07	
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch 12:13 – 12:39	
A5 / B11	12:42 – 1:42
A6 / B12	1:45 – 2:45

### IMPORTANT LINKS:

- [SCPS A/B Instructional Calendar](#)
- [SCPS Division Website](#)
- [NRMS Website](#)
- [NRMS Bell Schedule](#)
- [NRMS Supply List](#)
- [NRMS Athletic Information](#)
- [NRMS Clubs](#)

## Ni River Falcons

- 🦅 Student-Centered
- 🦅 Teamwork
- 🦅 Community Involvement
- 🦅 Character Development

# PBIS

## Positive Behavior

### Interventions & Supports

*Our Falcons are doing a great job living out the Falcon Formula by being Respectful, Responsible, and Productive. We are proud of our students and the positive behaviors they show us every day.*

*During the month of January, our Falcon Focus was on Responsibility. Our PE department taught a lesson that corresponds with this theme and ties into the health curriculum. Additionally, at the end of the month, each homeroom teacher will recognize one student from their homeroom that has done a great job being **Responsible**.*

*For February, our Falcon Focus is "Being Productive at home." Demonstrating kindness is the first step toward being respectful. Students will learn tips and tricks to make this a lifelong habit.*



THE FALCON FORMULA

Being **RESPECTFUL**  
+ Being **RESPONSIBLE**  
+ Being **PRODUCTIVE**

The Best Middle School in the World

### Hi-Five Friday

*Be prepared to give  
Everyone a Hi-Five.*



Every Friday is Falcon Friday! Wear your Ni River Middle School Spirit Wear or school colors – Black & Gold! School Spirit Wear can be purchased in the school store.

### Ni River Middle School

boasts a highly trained, committed staff of teachers and support staff aimed at helping every child succeed. Teachers are innovative instructional leaders who are consistently incorporating 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning strategies. Programs of study provide rigorous, challenging curricula to meet the diverse needs of all learners.

*Together - we prepare our students for their future.*



# What's happening in the classrooms at Ni River...

Pictures from the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Fair



Assembly Line activity in Mr. Wagoner's class



Mr. Wagoner's students working collaboratively



NRMS Ugly Sweater Contest



Ms. Migdal's students learning about the atom.



Mr. Hefner leading a lesson in the NRMS Library.



Sr. Deputy Young and Sgt. DiBella of the Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office trim bushes at NRMS



December PBIS Students of the Month



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