



Robert Urbanovich
Principal

RIVER DELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

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John Jasinski
Assistant Principal

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Dear Students and Parents/Guardians:

Greetings, Hawk Families! Our first week of classes went well and it appears most of our students are experiencing a growing comfort with the middle school routine. Please encourage your students to speak with an adult in the building if they are having trouble with lockers, directions, or anything else that could cause unnecessary stress.

We look forward to welcoming our parents and guardians tomorrow evening. A lot of information about the evening can be found in past communications. Students should be providing a hard copy of their *A Day* schedules this afternoon. As a reminder, the actual classes begin at 7:00 following an optional 6:30 presentation from our Counseling Department designed to provide new families with some basic middle school information. *Back to School Night* is meant for parents/guardians only. Please do not park in the back lot off Fifth Avenue. **Just a reminder that Tuesday is a one-session day for students.**

We will continue to remind our students about safely maneuvering the school parking lots during drop off each morning. Please do your part by driving slowly and being on the lookout for students, especially those on scooters and bikes. When pulling around the front circle and dropping off, students should be exiting vehicles on the passenger side.

Our district technology department is offering students the opportunity to borrow a Stylus for the 2025-2026 school year. Please use the following link if you are interested: <https://forms.office.com/r/cAxt9k2Bb9>. If a student has a district Stylus already, there is no need to opt-in again (last year's submissions are on file). Borrowing a district Stylus is optional. The terms for borrowing a Stylus are listed in the link. Many of our families prefer to purchase their own Stylus (or a few), as they tend to get misplaced often.

This week, River Dell will be acknowledging Suicide Prevention Month. There will be morning announcements and information posted around the building. Students can also find important help hotline numbers on the back of their current and future student ID cards. Everyone has tough days. Whether it be due to stress about school, friendships, family, mental health, or substance abuse, the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is available anytime, anywhere. Students are asked to wear yellow on Wednesday to support suicide prevention and let everyone know there are others to turn to if they are experiencing internal struggles.

Finally, we met with 8th grade classes today about a variety of items such as the responsibility to exhibit greater maturity in school, goals for developing positive relationships, exhibiting high levels of effort, and responsible behavior online, specifically in chat rooms and on social media.

Attached below, you will find resources on suicide awareness, safety on social media, and tips on speaking with your kids about the risks of *sexting*. We will continue to educate our students throughout the year on topics that affect typical middle school students living in a digital world.

- [Parent/Caregiver's Toolkit](#)
- [Keeping Teens Safe on Social Media](#)
- [Sexting: How to Talk with Kids About the Risks](#)
- [Parenting the Digital Generation](#)

Have a wonderful rest of your day!

Best Regards,



Robert Urbanovich
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