

2024-2025

**Upper
Academy
Information
and
Requirements**



Principal: Fatima R. Balderramos
Asst. Principal: Elisa Mitrani-Profeta
Asst. Principal: Israel R. Sosa



Upper Academy Academic Requirements Needed for Promotion

- ▶ English/Language Arts (ELA) (3)
- ▶ Mathematics (3)
- ▶ Social Studies (3)
- ▶ Science (3)

Core Classes Are Based
On Teacher
Recommendation &
Assessments

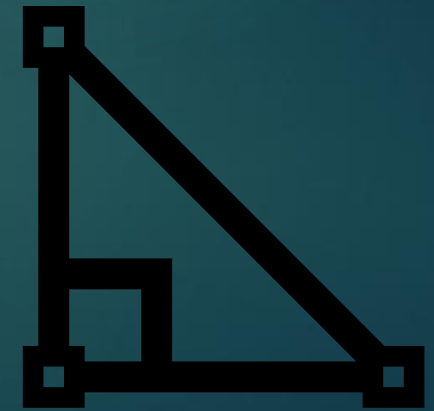
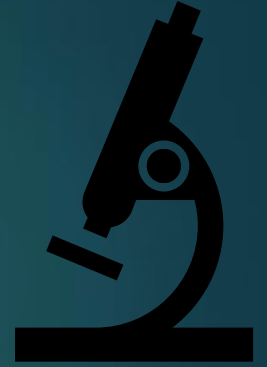
- ▶ Electives (6) including
P.E./Exploring Music/Critical Thinking

Students scoring Level 1 or Level 2 on statewide standardized assessments for ELA or Math may be enrolled in an intensive reading or math course in lieu of an elective course.



High School Courses Offered

- ▶ Algebra I Honors (7th and 8th grade)
 - ▶ Passing the Algebra 1 EOC (End-of-Course) assessment is a high school graduation requirement.
- ▶ Geometry Honors (8th grade)
- ▶ Physical Science (7th and 8th grade)
- ▶ Biology Honors (8th grade)
 - ▶ EOC assessment results for Algebra I, Geometry and Biology constitute 30% of the final grade.
 - ▶ A passing grade must be earned in order to receive high school credit.
 - ▶ High school level courses taken in middle school will be included in the high school transcripts.



Academic Grades

- ▶ A minimum of 10 points is required to pass each class.
- ▶ Each academic grade is assigned the following value:
 $A = 4$ $B = 3$ $C = 2$ $D = 1$ $F = 0$
- ▶ Each quarter is worth 25%. To calculate the number of points, multiply the numeric value of the letter grade by 2.5 (i.e., $3 \times 2.5 = 7.5$ points).
- ▶ A total of 18 credits are needed in order to successfully complete middle school (3 in Language Arts; 3 in Math; 3 in Social Studies; 3 in Science; 6 elective courses).
- ▶ If a score lower than 3 on Reading and/or Math on the new state assessments is earned, students will be placed in a mandatory elective of Intensive Reading/Math course as mandated by the state of Florida.
- ▶ Failing Core Classes (Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies) means failing the grade. Work hard!



Elective Choices

Electives

- ▶ Art
- ▶ Band
- ▶ Broadcasting (7,8)
- ▶ Chess
- ▶ Computers
- ▶ Culinary Arts
- ▶ Dance
- ▶ Drama
- ▶ Journalism
- ▶ Orchestra
- ▶ Peer Counseling (7,8)
- ▶ Robotics
- ▶ Speech and Debate



M-DCPS Attendance Policy

Parents and students are responsible for attendance which shall be required of all students during the days and hours that school is in session.

- ▶ **School Attendance** - Students are to be counted in attendance only if they are present for at least two (2) hours of the day or engaged in a school-approved educational activity.
- ▶ **Tardiness** - A student is considered tardy if they are not present in class at the moment the school bell rings for the class assigned.
- ▶ **Early Dismissal** –No student shall be released within the final thirty (30) minutes of the school day unless authorized by the principal or principal’s designee (i.e., emergency, sickness).
- ▶ **Attendance e-mail:** 0241attendance@dadeschools.net (Excuse must be submitted no later than three (3) after the absence)
- ▶ Absences not included in the approved excused absences list from M-DCPS shall be unexcused. Any student who has been absent from school will be marked unexcused until the required documentation is submitted. Failure to provide required documentation within three (3) school days upon the return to school will result in an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences do not require that the teacher provide make-up work for the student.
- ▶ A student accumulating ten (10) or more class unexcused absences in an annual course or five (5) or more class unexcused absences in a designated semester course may have final grade(s) withheld pending an administrative screening and completion of assigned interventions by the Attendance Review Committee.
- ▶ For more Info - Visit the Student Parent Handbook @ https://api.dadeschools.net/SMAv2/0241/Links/Parent_Student_Handbook_2023-2024-ENGLISH.pdf



Attendance

Attendance and promptness are mandatory on a DAILY basis.

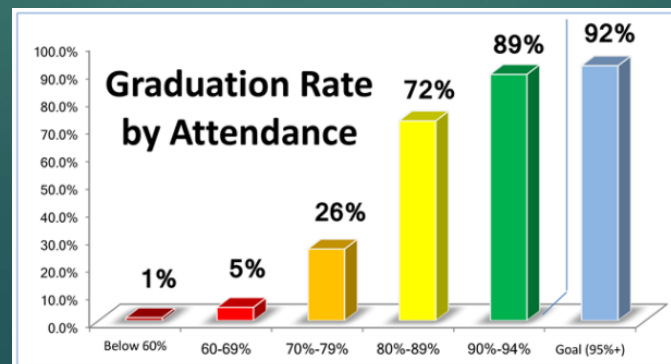
School hours for middle school are as follows:

8:25 a.m. - 3:05 p.m. - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

8:25 a.m. – 1:50 p.m. – Wednesday

Excused absences include child's illness, death in the family, or an M-DCPS approved religious holiday. A note **MUST** be sent to the homeroom teacher when you return to school. If the student is absent more than two days because of illness, a doctor's note is expected.

THESE NOTES MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN THREE (3) DAYS OF THE STUDENT'S RETURN TO SCHOOL IN ORDER TO HAVE THE UNEXCUSED ABSENCE(S) CHANGED TO EXCUSED. AFTER THE THREE (3) DAY PERIOD, THE ABSENCE(S) WILL REMAIN UNEXCUSED.



Creating a Culture of Peace

- ▶ At RKBBH K-8 Center, it is our mission to provide a secure, innovative and challenging environment for our students.

WE ARE A BULLY-FREE SCHOOL!



- ▶ The school district policy on bullying and harassment states that bullying is prohibited:
 - ▶ During any educational program or activity conducted by M-DCPS;
 - ▶ During any school-related or school-sponsored program or activity;
 - ▶ On a M-DCPS school bus; or
 - ▶ Through the use of any electronic device or data while on school grounds or on a M-DCPS school bus, computer software that is accessed through a computer, or computer network of M-DCPS.
- ▶ Additional information about M-DCPS Bullying Policy may be found at:
<http://studentservices.dadeschools.net/bullying/>

Code of Student Conduct

MAINTENANCE OF APPROPRIATE STUDENT BEHAVIOR

- Affects the orderly operation of the classroom, school functions, extracurricular/co-curricular programs or approved transportation.
- Model student behavior creates a safe learning environment and reduces disruption of the educational process.
- Behavior infractions range from Level I – Level V.
- Behavior Contract
- **CSC Core Values**
 1. Citizenship
 2. Cooperation
 3. Fairness
 4. Honesty
 5. Integrity
 6. Kindness
 7. Pursuit of Excellence
 8. Respect
 9. Responsibility



[English](#)

[En Español](#)

[Kreyòl](#)

[English](#)

[En Español](#)

[Kreyòl](#)

Consequences

- ▶ Per the Code of Student Conduct, the principal or designee must select at least one of the following strategies:
 - ▶ Parent/Guardian contact
 - ▶ Reprimand
 - ▶ Detention
 - ▶ Student behavior contract
 - ▶ Loss of the right to participate in social activities such as celebrations, school dances, end-of-year activities, etc.
 - ▶ Assignment to a Student Success Center(1- 10 days)
 - ▶ Recommendation for expulsion
 - ▶ Points Behavior Management System



All Students Are Expected To:

- ▶ Respect and obey ALL staff members.
- ▶ Refrain from disturbing others, in and out of online or physical classes.
- ▶ Refrain from physical and/or verbal abuse, and cyber bullying.
- ▶ Comply with mandatory uniform policy.
- ▶ Complete all class work and homework assignments.
- ▶ Refrain from damaging or destroying property.
- ▶ Follow cafeteria rules.
- ▶ Refrain from UNAUTHORIZED use of any electronic device during classes.
- ▶ Follow BYOD rules.
- ▶ Refrain from chewing gum on school property.
- ▶ Arrive to all classes on time.
- ▶ Ride skateboards off campus only and use helmets.



Behavior Contract and Detention Policy

2023-2024 UPPER ACADEMY BEHAVIOR CONTRACT

Upper Academy students will follow this contract beginning Monday, August 28, 2023, through the end of the school year. Students must maintain acceptable behavior and **attendance** to participate in school activities such as dances, field trips, Spirit Week, and other activities that will arise throughout the school year.

Violations of the Student Code of Conduct and poor attendance will be addressed through the implementation of the District's Progressive Discipline Model and attendance policy, which includes but is not limited to, parent contact, poor behavior grade on the Report Card, referral to the school counselor, referral to the Administration, and referral to an alternative setting. Level 1 and/or Level 2 violations of the Code of Student Conduct during the first semester (beginning Monday, August 28, 2023 – Friday, January 19, 2024) MAY be eligible for second semester activities/field trips (subject to Discipline Committee review). *First semester and second semester infractions impact end-of-year activities for 8th grade students.*

All students are expected to:

1. Respect and obey ALL staff members.
2. Refrain from disturbing others, in and out of class.
3. Refrain from physical and/or verbal abuse and cyber bullying.
4. Maintain mandatory uniform code. Students out of uniform will be directed to call parents to bring a change of clothes. (See **mandatory uniform policy on the back.**)
5. Refrain from damaging or destroying property.
6. Follow cafeteria rules.
7. Refrain from **unauthorized** use of any electronic device during school hours. Use of any electronic device, including cell phones, without the permission of a teacher, will result in confiscation and a parent/guardian will be contacted. The device may be retrieved by the student or parent/guardian at the end of the school day in the main office. For repeated violations of this rule, the device will be confiscated and only returned to a parent/guardian.
8. Gum chewing on school property is **prohibited**, as it vandalizes our school.
9. Arrive to all classes on time.
10. Refrain from using any type of **vaping device or nicotine product.**
11. Refrain from sales of any product or exchange of currency. Both are strictly prohibited.

For safety reasons, students may not be in the hallways, bathrooms, or school play areas prior to the start of the school day. **All students must remain in their assigned area until they are released for homeroom at 8:25 am.** Any student found in unauthorized areas prior to 8:25 am will be subject to disciplinary action.

Mandatory Uniform Policy

- a) All shorts and skirts must be 1" past the fingertips. They must be black or khaki only. Black jeans are acceptable.
- b) All pants, shorts, and skirts must be worn at the waist. No visible under garments.
- c) Burgundy uniform shirts must be at least 3" below the waist. Shirts are not to be tied at the bottom.
- d) Jackets must be burgundy and must be worn over a uniform shirt.
- e) Only closed shoes are permitted. Sandals, slides, crocs, etc. are not allowed for safety reasons.

Student Name (print) _____ Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

AFTER-SCHOOL DETENTIONS POLICY

The Points System will reflect infractions given for violations of Student Code of Conduct and for failure to turn in ungraded assignments. Student point balances will impact eligibility for participation in school activities. Students who receive four (4) points must serve a detention. Detentions will be held for one (1) hour after school per week, usually on Friday. Parents will be notified when a detention has been earned and when it is to be served. **Failure to serve detention will result in a discipline referral to the administration.** Once a student has served five (5) detentions, all future infractions will be documented in a discipline referral to the administration. Consequences may include work detail outside of instructional time or being referred to an alternative setting.

Please note that one (1) point will be given for gum chewing or for unauthorized use of devices.

Student Name (print) _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

RKBBH K-8 School Uniform Policy

- ▶ ALL students must wear the mandatory school uniform!
- ▶ The school uniform for **Upper Academy (6th-8th)** is maroon shirts with the school logo and solid khaki or black pants, shorts, or skirts. Black jeans are permitted but must be appropriate in length and size. **Please note that under no circumstances torn pants, yoga pants, leggings, or pants that are lower than the waist are to be worn.**
- ▶ Head apparel (i.e., hats) is not permitted.
- ▶ **Students not wearing the school uniform will be sent to the main office to call home. Parents must come to school with the appropriate uniform.**
- ▶ **Students must wear closed shoes. No open toe or heel shoes (e. g. Crocs, slides).**
- ▶ School spirit shirts may be purchased the PTA at <https://rkbbh.memberhub.store>



Extracurricular Activities

- Activities vary from year to year and are subject to availability.

RKBBH K-8 Sports

- Cross Country
- Track and Field
- Golf
- TBA



RKBBH K-8 After School Clubs

- Best Buddies
- Chess
- F.E.A.
- SECME
- Garden/Recycling Club
- Student Council
- Sterling Bobcats
- Yearbook

8th Grade Activities

- ▶ **Magnet School Applications – Oct. 1st – Jan. 15th**

(Based on Application)

- ▶ Out of State Field Trip

(Based on Eligibility – Parent Meeting To Be Announced)

- ▶ Promotional Ceremony

(All Students Being Promoted)

- ▶ 8th Grade Dance and End-of-Year Activities

(Based on Eligibility)



WELCOME CLASS OF 2025

Join the 8th Grade Activities Schoology Group



Mrs. Castillo
Activities
Coordinator

ycastillo@dadeschools.net



ACCESS CODE:

WBVT-WSB2-CXP62

Join by following these simple steps:

1. Go to Schoology - Click on Groups
2. On the right-hand side, click on My Groups
3. Click on Join a Group
4. Type in ACCESS CODE
5. WELCOME TO THE CLASS of 2025 GROUP

Get ready for a fun and exciting year
of activities!



CERTIFICATE

This certificate is presented to

SAMPLE TEXT HERE YOUR SAMPLE TEXT YOUR SAMPLE TEXT

NAME SURNAME

YOUR SAMPLE TEXT HERE YOUR SAMPLE TEXT

SAMPLE TEXT HERE YOUR SAMPLE TEXT YOUR SAMPLE TEXT
TEXT HERE YOUR SAMPLE

DATE: 24.03.18



SIGNATURE: *Signature*



Have a **GREAT** School Year **BOBCATS!**

Remember ...

- ▶ Always treat others with kindness, compassion and **respect!**
- ▶ **Stay safe!**
- ▶ Stay positive and focused!
- ▶ *Show Bobcat pride!*
- ▶ **Help keep schools safe. If you "See Something, Say Something" call: (305) 995-COPS or email: cop@dadeschools.net.**

