



RODNEY E. THOMPSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

75 Walpole Street
Stafford, Virginia 22554
(540) 658-6420 FAX (540) 658-6430

Michael Archambault, Principal

Jeff Howard, Assistant Principal

Rose Averett, Assistant Principal

February 25, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The transition from elementary to middle school is an exciting milestone for students and parents. It can be overwhelming at times, but the RTMS team of teachers, counselors, administrators and staff are here to help you along the way. Rodney E. Thompson Middle School's program is designed to provide instruction in core content and skills, as well as exploratory experiences appropriate to the developmental needs of early adolescence. Our team is committed to ensuring that our students receive the best possible support to learn and grow.

All sixth-grade students will take five (5) required core courses consisting of language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, and physical education.

Sixth-grade students will also select a number of elective courses. To assist in this process we prepared a [Sixth Grade Elective Worksheet](#) which lists all of the possible elective classes to be offered to 6th graders at Rodney E. Thompson Middle School. We ask you to help your child review the options and select 10 electives. List them in order of preference, #1 being your child's first choice.

To learn more about each elective offering please see the course descriptions for each class in the SCPS [Middle School Program of Studies](#) and by visiting our [Rising 6th Grade Registration Website](#).

Once you have determined your top 10 choices, you are asked to enter those choices in the StudentVue On-Line Course Selection (OCS). Detailed directions to complete this step are found here in our [StudentVue Online Course Request](#) instructional slidedeck.

In addition to core and elective courses, we also offer different levels of remedial courses in **Math and English**. Placement in these courses is based on a set of criteria including previous SOL tests, reading assessments, a NWEA MAP Growth assessment and teacher recommendation. Families will be contacted about student placement in these courses over the summer.

Please understand that not all elective courses are offered at every middle school. Some of the courses may not be offered or canceled as a result of low enrollment, staffing, and/or budget limitations.

Elective course selection is due by March 25th. By this date you should submit your elective choice worksheet to your child's elementary school counselor and have completed the Online Course Request Process in StudentVue.

We are very proud of our school and are excited to share our many wonderful programs with our incoming students.

"Home of the Jaguars"



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- Current 5th grade students will visit Rodney Thompson during the school day on March 8th with their elementary teachers and counselors.
- Parents are invited to attend our RTMS Parent Information Session on Wednesday, March 9th from 6:00-7:30 pm in the RTMS Gymnasium.
- Families seeking more individualized help in registering are invited to attend our open lab registration sessions on Thursday, March 10th and Tuesday, March 22nd from 6:00 - 7:30 in the RTMS Library

We promise to make every effort to ensure that RTMS is an inviting, safe, and stimulating place where students can reach their fullest academic and personal potential.

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Archambault, Principal