



Welcome back to school! This year is going to be our best yet! We are thrilled to have you at Rawlins Middle School! Every staff member at RMS shows their dedication to this profession by recognizing that you are the reason we come to school everyday. If we didn't have students coming to school every day, we wouldn't be here! It is an honor to work with you and we are grateful for the opportunity to help you along your journey here at RMS.

We believe that school is an opportunity to learn and expand our thinking into new areas that we have not discovered yet. There is a great amount of practice that happens each day in every classroom. After the practice portion of learning takes place, teachers administer assessments that they created as a content area team to assess your learning. This provides you with an opportunity to show us what you know and also for us to determine if we are doing our best to instruct you at the highest levels. This year we are going to have greater focus on intervening after each assessment. We are actually going to have several STOP teaching days built into the instructional pacing so teachers can assess each of you and determine what you learned and then decide what to do next. After intervention and extension time, the process starts over with more practice and assessments on the next standard being taught. This learning process will be rigorous and will require your focused attention towards the standards and learning objectives.

In an effort to help you accomplish this, we decided to eliminate the use of personal electronic devices from the school. Electronic devices include: cell phones, iPods, tablets, earbuds of all types and any other device where music and gaming distracts from the learning process. At the same time, teachers will have greater access to Chromebooks in their classrooms as an instructional tool for projects, interventions and extensions of learning. There is a time and place for use of gaming and music devices, but we want to protect the precious opportunity we have to instruct you in the standards that we have deemed to be essential, across all contents.

Along with the change in our electronic use comes a few reminders about the behavioral aspects of RMS. Part of the Discovery process is to prepare students for the future. Remember the following rules each and every day. Please Be.....

1. Prompt
2. Prepared
3. Polite
4. P.M.A.
5. Participate
6. Produce

All of these words or attributes are signs of good citizenship and will help you along your path to success at Rawlins Middle School. We will help you with all of these things, the main requirement that we have of you is that you are **WILLING** to work with us to accomplish what we have outlined for you. We want to invite all the **6th grade students** to our open house on **Monday, August 12 at 5:00 PM**. We will have a mandatory parent meeting in the main gym at 5:00 for instruction on changes and the plan for the rest of the evening. We will also have another open house for all **7th and 8th grade students** on **Tuesday, August 13 at 5:00 PM** with the same parent meeting at 5:00 in the main gym. We will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs for dinner on both nights and we invite all families and family members to come. We are incredibly excited to start the school year and we cannot wait to see you again!

Sincerely,

Ryan Searle Principal
Jacinda Waldrip Assistant Principal