

JAMES S. RICKARDS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Rocket Trails

Volume 3, Issue 2

October 2018



Team Rickards...On "A" Mission to be Outstanding!

This month Rickards Middle School launched the first "Girls Who Code" club. The kick off was on October 4th, 2018 in Ms. Sookdeo's class. Why is girls coding important? Computer Science is a male driven industry, and to encourage girls to code, Reshma Saujani started a foundation. Girls Who Code founder and CEO Reshma Saujani and First Lady of Pennsylvania Frances Wolf will visit the William D. Kelley School to celebrate Pennsylvania's commitment to promoting Women in Tech lesson plans and publishing gender participation data for computer science classrooms to increase female participation in the tech industry.

"It's time that we prepare our students – specifically, our girls – for the future of work," said Girls Who Code Founder and CEO Reshma Saujani.

Mark your calendars: Computer Science Week in December 3-9, 2018!



6th Grade

Ms. Dias—Assistant Principal

754-322-4416

Ms. Alexis—Guidance

754-322-4431

7th Grade

Dr. Drake—Assistant Principal

754-322-4414

Ms. Clarke—Guidance

754-322-4411

8th Grade

Ms. Sheffield—Assistant Principal

754-322-4419

Mr. Bascome—Guidance

754-322-4433

**Homework
help**

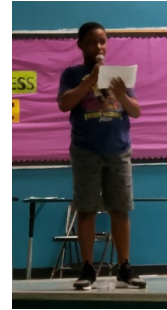
HOMEWORK HELP is provided after school Monday-Thursday from 4-5pm in the Media Center.



Constitution Day

September 17th is Constitution Day. We at Rickards like to celebrate this by reminding ourselves of our three branches of government and the preamble to the Constitution. Of course, we can't take all the credit for ourselves, as we invited a few special guests to talk about how we can make a difference in our government. This was followed up by a trial led by Judge Gonzales against the defendant, Mr. Sohn, and the Prosecuting Attorney Mr. Wongsam. After the jury ruled Mr. Sohn guilty, Constitution Day closed out with a quick, yet competitive trivia session.

(Story contributed by RMS Yearbook Staff: Naliah Nettles)



"You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today."

-Abraham Lincoln

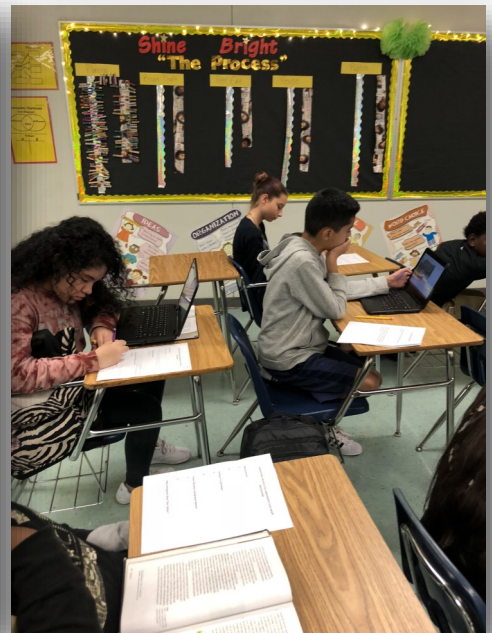
Hispanic Heritage

Please join us for a night of fun exploring the different Hispanic cultures around the world. Come see the hard work of our students in Mr. Vela's Spanish classes, music from the RMS band led by Ms. McClendon, student and professional dancers, and a special treat of some of Rickards own teachers and staff dancing the salsa. Save the date for **October 25th at 6 pm!**



Literacy Department

After finishing their personal narratives, Ms. Morris's class is currently in the planning process for their first informative essay on immigration. They are keeping track of their writing process with their personalized clothespins on their bulletin board as they work towards their writing goals!



Sandy Hook Promise: Start With Hello

This year we teamed up with Sandy Hook Promise, an organization dedicated to suicide and school shooting prevention, to bring a program to the student body called *Start with Hello*. Coach T. came to our school to represent Sandy Hook and talked about how to reach out to kids that are alone and struggling. He explained to students the steps of connecting and being kind to others. He also gave us some helpful icebreakers, such as a “would you rather” question, for people who are more shy and don’t know how to start a conversation. Overall, his message consisted of understanding isolation, self-harm, depression and how to prevent those suffering from those feelings.

(Story contributed by RMS Yearbook Staff: Naliah Nettles, Sofia Nguyen, and Tuba Ahmed)



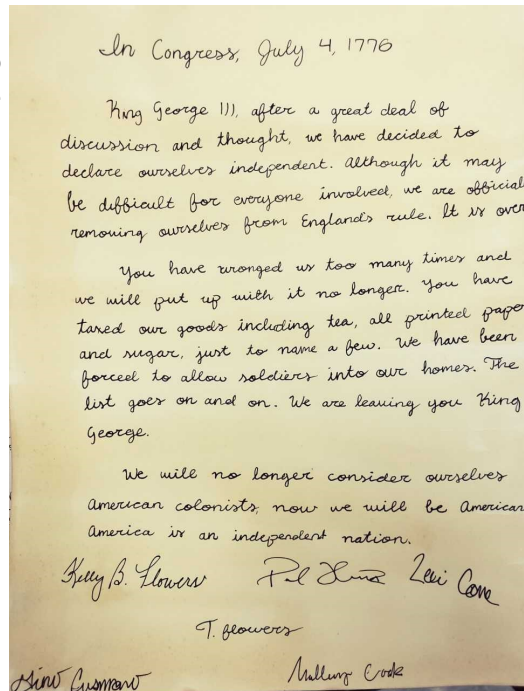
Music Corner

The Rickards Middle School Band has officially begun fundraising for our Spring performance trip to Walt Disney World. The Piano classes are off to a speedy start already playing entire pieces of music! Please come out and support our performances at Hispanic Heritage Night on Oct. 25th and the Winter Concert on December 13th.



Social Studies Department

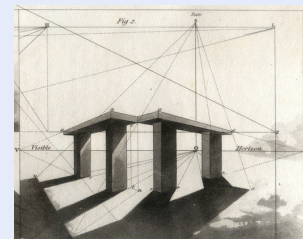
The month of October, Civics is focusing on the events leading up to the Declaration of Independence like the French & Indian War, Stamp Act, Boston Massacre, Boston Tea Party, Coercive Acts, and First & Second Continental Congress.



Civics student Tess Flowers' “break-up” letter to King George.

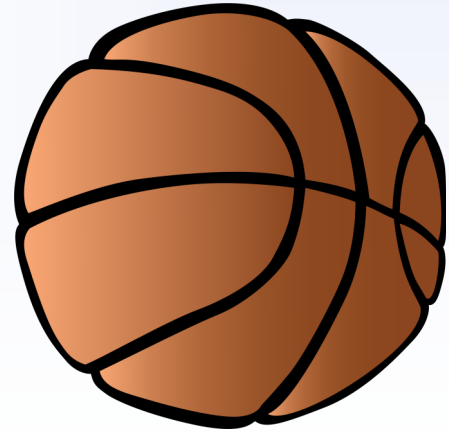
Art Corner

Art students started the school year designing block letters then geometric shapes. They also used value and cast shadow to create a 3-D effect. Students created their own drawings as a relief from the “cube” oriented lesson.



RMS Basketball Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME	SITE	OPPONENT
Mon	10/15	4:30pm	Lauderdale Lakes	Lauderdale Lakes
Wed	10/17	4:00pm	Rickards	North Broward Academy
Tues	10/23	4:30pm	Dillard	Dillard
Thurs	10/25	4:00pm	Rickards	Lyons Creek
Mon	10/29	4:30pm	Deerfield	Deerfield
Thurs	11/1	4:00pm	Rickards	William Dandy
Wed	11/7	4:00pm	Rickards	Parkway
Fri	11/9	4:00pm	Rickards	Renaissance



OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Golf Match	Oct 1 3:30 pm
Cross Country Meet	Oct 3
Debate	Oct 3
ESLS Parent Night	Oct 4 6 pm
Health and Wellness Fair	Oct 6 11 am
Early Release Day	Oct 18
No School—Employee Planning	Oct 19
Oakland Park Chess	Oct 20 2:30—3:30
Make Up Picture Day	Oct 23 Morning
Red Ribbon Week	Oct 24-Oct 31
Hispanic Heritage Night	Oct 25 6 pm
Fall Reward Dance	Oct 26
Middle School Leadership Workshop-NJH, StuCo, and FFEA	Oct 27 8 am to 6 pm
Halloween	Oct 31

The background of the poster is a dark purple night sky with a large, bright full moon. Several black bats are flying around the moon. In the foreground, there is a silhouette of a haunted house with several windows that are lit up with a yellow glow. To the left and right of the house, there are silhouettes of bare trees and a graveyard with several tombstones. The entire scene is framed by a decorative yellow border with a zig-zag pattern and small starburst accents at the corners.

HALLOWEEN BASH

Trunk or Treat! Costume Contest!
Live Music! Food Court!

OCTOBER 26, 2018
at 6:00pm

Jaco Pastorius Park 4000 N Dixie Hwy, Oakland Park, FL 33334

ESSAY CONTEST

“IF I WERE ELECTED MAYOR, . . .”

How would you make your city a better place?

WHO

The contest is open to all Florida 7th graders who attend a public or private school, or who are home schooled.

WHAT

Essays must begin with the statement, “If I were elected Mayor, . . .” must not be more than 250 words long and fit on one page. Students must describe how they would make a difference as mayor and how Home Rule – the authority to make local decisions at the local level – helps make their city a great place to live. Essays should be typed.

WHERE

Download the contest details and student guide on this web page: floridamayors.org.

WHEN

All entries must be postmarked no later than Friday, January 18, 2019. Send your completed essay and entry form to the Florida League of Mayors, Post Office Box 1757, Tallahassee, FL 32302.

WHY

To learn more about your city government and for the chance to win a prize. First, second and third place prizes (see below), with the winners chosen by a committee of the Florida League of Mayors board. Every student who participates will receive a participation certificate.

QUESTIONS

Please contact Linda Bridges at 1-(800) 342-8112.

SPONSORS

The Florida League of Cities and the Florida League of Mayors.



ABOUT MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Why is municipal government important?

Of the three major levels of government in the United States – federal, state and local – none affects citizens more directly than local government. Many city, town and village governments provide vital services including police and fire protection, streets and roads, libraries, recreation and clean water.

What is Home Rule?

In 1968, the Florida Constitution granted Home Rule power to city and county governments. Home Rule provides the authority to adopt ordinances and enact programs without permission from the state (when such ordinances do not conflict with state or federal law). This empowers local leaders to make decisions that are best for their unique communities.

Learn More

Visit the Florida League of Cities website at floridaleagueofcities.com/resources/civic-education for helpful resources on Home Rule and city government including videos, handouts and curriculum.

PRIZES

First Place: The first place winner will receive a \$100 gift card and have a chance to be “Mayor for a Day” in his or her city.

Second Place: The second place winner will receive a \$50 gift card.

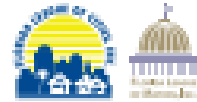
Third Place: The third place winner will receive a \$25 gift card.

First, second and third place winners will receive a joint resolution from the Florida League of Cities and the Florida League of Mayors, to be presented by the mayor at a hometown commission meeting.



ESSAY CONTEST

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM



A completed Official Entry Form must be signed and stapled to the front of each single essay submission.

Student's Name (First and Last Name): _____

Name of Parent/Legal Guardian: _____

Parent's Phone #: _____ Parent's Email: _____

School Name: _____ School District: _____

School Address: _____

School City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Teacher's Name: _____ School Phone #: _____

Teacher's Email: _____

In signing this, I certify that the essay is my own original work and I agree to comply with all contest rules.

Signature of Student: _____

Word Count: _____ (no more than 250 words)

Completed application and essay must be postmarked by January 18, 2019, and be sent to:

Florida League of Mayors
Post Office Box 1757
Tallahassee, FL 32302

Questions? Please contact Linda Bridges at the League office at 1-(800) 342-8112. For more information, visit the Florida League of Mayors website at floridamayors.org.

CONTEST RULES

- Ⓧ A student can only submit one essay.
- Ⓧ **ESSAYS SHOULD BE TYPED**; can be no more than 250 words long; and not be more than one page. *Please adhere to the word count.*
- Ⓧ Essays will become the property of the Florida League of Mayors and will not be returned.
- Ⓧ First, second and third place essays will be published in the Florida League of Cities *Quality Cities* magazine and on the Florida League of Mayors website.
- Ⓧ Essays must begin with this statement, "If I were elected Mayor, . . ." and how Home Rule helps make their city a great place to live.

Judging criteria will include:

- Ⓧ Creativity, clarity, sincerity of thought, and appropriate grammar, spelling and essay construction.
- Ⓧ Essays should focus on how to make your city a better place, include a discussion regarding "home Rule" and no other levels of government (i.e. school districts, special districts, school lunches, bullying, etc.)