

WELCOME BACK

2025
2026



Make sure
you're in
press code!!

Call me
President
Grandpa!

NEWS

RAA





Principal's Welcome

Summer is in full swing, but I'm already excited to welcome you back for the 2025-2026 school year! Consider this your early hello and a glimpse of the great things ahead.

A heartfelt thank you to our teachers, parents, students, alumni, church, and the entire RAA community! Your involvement creates our unique and strong family atmosphere where we can connect with each other, our community, and with Christ Jesus in a shared journey. We eagerly anticipate the coming year and all the ways we'll continue to make our campus vibrant, from numerous opportunities in music, athletics, clubs, activities, events, and volunteering to countless other ways to connect, explore interests, and contribute, fostering friendships that can truly last a lifetime. RAA is more than a school; it's a supportive community and family working towards shared positive goals rooted in faith and community.

To reflect all this and clearly define who we are, we're thrilled to share our updated mission statement. This new statement powerfully highlights our commitment to nurturing the whole student and empowering them to positively impact the world with kindness and integrity - both at RAA and beyond. It does so by fostering critical thinking, embracing diversity, and above all, by being guided by Christ-centered ethics and biblical truth. We're truly excited about the clarity and direction this brings for RAA's future!

Building on this mission and vision, our theme this year, "More Than Me," beautifully aligns with our community focus and our place within it. It centers around the idea that each of our gifts, talents, and lives are meant to bless others. It reminds us that faith is not just personal, but communal and that true fulfillment comes through giving, not receiving. We aim to help students find a healthy balance between personal well-being and actively engaging in our community. Parents, we encourage your partnership in fostering this understanding and habit.

I'm truly looking forward to this year, and to witnessing everything we accomplish together. Please keep all our students, campus, and educational goals in your prayers as we aim to cultivate not only strong relationships and mutual understanding, but also to inspire students to thoughtfully engage with their learning, striving for a high degree of academic excellence, and to make a difference in the lives of others and the community around them. May RAA remain a place where encountering Jesus' love enriches both minds and hearts as well as opening doors.

Enjoy your summer and stay safe as we progress towards the August 18, 2025 start of the 2025-2026 school year; please keep an eye on ParentSquare for more information and updates soon!

MR. ISRAEL CARREON
(H.S. ENGLISH TEACHER)



HEATHER PAGE
(M.S. TEACHER)



Straight ahead,
Bill Arnold
Your RAA Principal

MR. ARMANDO CAMPOS
(IT, MAINTENANCE)



MS. LISA MURRAY
(H.S. ENGLISH TEACHER)



MS. SONIA VENTURA
(BOOKKEEPER)



UPDATES Faculty & Staff

There are a few exciting new staff updates for this upcoming school year! You might have seen them around last year, but we're officially introducing Mr. Armando Campos as our new IT and Maintenance person, and Ms. Sonia Ventura as our new bookkeeper in the Business Office. They're taking over for Mr. Brian Haddad, who, after nine years at RAA, has accepted a Business Manager position at one of our sister schools. We're thrilled for him and wish him all the best!

Also, Heather Page, who previously taught 4th and 5th grade, is moving up to middle school. She'll bring her creativity, patience, and teaching skills to the growing team.

Finally, while you might already know them, we're officially reintroducing Mr. Carreon and Ms. Murray, who will be teaching high school English again. We're also excited to welcome a few new teachers assistants joining us this year!

THIS YEAR'S THEME:

>>> *More than Me...*



This year's theme, "More than Me," invites us all to cultivate a spirit of generosity and connection. We'll be exploring how investing in our community, supporting our peers, and caring for our environment enriches not only the world around us but also our own lives. Each month we'll focus on a specific sub-theme within "More than Me." This focus on thinking beyond ourselves, coupled with showing compassion toward others and embracing diversity, aligns perfectly with our mission to empower you to live a purpose-filled life.



AUGUST: *It Starts With Jesus* | **SEPTEMBER:** *Building a Community of Care* | **OCTOBER:** *Lifting Others Up* | **NOVEMBER:** *Serving with Grateful Hearts* | **DECEMBER:** *Giving Without Expecting* | **JANUARY:** *Choosing Peace* | **FEBRUARY:** *Loving Like Jesus* | **MARCH:** *Being a Servant Leader* | **APRIL:** *Caring for God's Creation* | **MAY:** *Living the Mission*



COMMUNICATION

To stay up-to-date about everything happening on and off campus, you can utilize several different communication platforms, each offering specific types of information, as outlined below:

- **ParentSquare:** This is the main communication hub for schoolwide and classroom news. You will find the weekly newsletter, important updates, urgent messages, and event reminders here.
- **Family Portal/RAA App:** Expect to find important announcements, grade reports, payment plans & the lunch ordering system here.
- **School Website:** Occasional updates, calendar & blog.
- **Social Media:** Glimpses into school events, fun stories, and photos/videos.
- **Email:** Individual departments (like the registrar) occasionally might send emails for specific, personalized matters.



Rooted in Faith, Growing Together

The Village AT RAA// Home & School Connection

Welcome to The Village at RAA, where faith, family, and community come together to support our school in meaningful ways. Whether you can lend a hand occasionally or be deeply involved, there's a place for you here. The Village brings parents and guardians together to plan joyful events like the Fall Fair, Grandparents' Day, and Teacher Appreciation Week, while also uplifting our staff and creating moments that show our students they are surrounded by love and support.

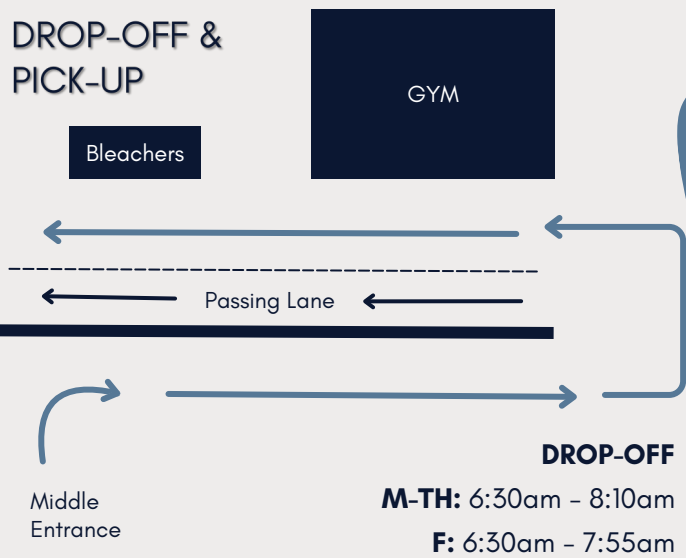
This isn't just for elementary families—middle and high school parents are a vital part of our Village, too. If you're looking for connection, purpose, and a way to make your presence felt on campus, we invite you to grow with us. We meet quarterly, serve with heart, and walk in faith together as we build a stronger, more united RAA family. We're so glad you're here.



Sign-up

Melanie Horricks & Cara Powers
Association Co-Presidents

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP



REGULAR DAY// SCHEDULE

ELEMENTARY	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL
M-TH 8:15am - Pick-up*	M-TH 8:15am - 3:15pm	M-TH 8:15am - 3:15pm
FRIDAY 8:00am - Pick-up*	FRIDAY 8:00am - 12:30pm	FRIDAY 8:00am - 12:35pm
*K-2ND GRADE M-TH: 2:30pm F: 11:45am	*3RD-4TH GRADE M-TH: 2:45pm F: 12:00pm	*5TH GRADE M-TH: 3:00pm F: 12:15pm

Food on Campus LUNCH

Good news! The lunch program is back for the 2025-2026 school year and will again feature the online ordering system through FACTS Family Portal. Keep in mind that emergency lunches will be offered for an extra fee, and are subject to availability.

1. Log on to your Family Portal
2. Click Student > Lunch > Create Web Order
3. Follow the prompts & fill out the form
4. Click Submit Order
5. Type in payment information & submit

CONSIDERATIONS:

- **Please pre-order your student's lunch whenever possible. You can do this online as late as 9am on the day your student requires a lunch.**
- **Due to safety concerns, no food delivery services (DoorDash, Uber Eats, etc.) will be allowed before, during or after school.**



LEARN MORE

PARENT TALK SCHEDULE

Back by popular demand after a year of rave reviews, we're thrilled to announce a fantastic lineup of six insightful parent talks throughout the year, connecting you with leading experts to help your child thrive!

SEPTEMBER	De-stigmatizing Mental Health
OCTOBER	Nutrition: What Our Kids Need to Thrive
JANUARY	Uncomfortable Conversations
FEBRUARY	Emotional Regulation
APRIL	Eating Disorders

HOW DO I GET READY TO VOLUNTEER?

To make sure you can jump right into volunteering without a hitch, the most important thing to do is **get your volunteer clearance paperwork in order**. This is all about keeping our students safe, and having everything up-to-date means you're good to go. Whether you've volunteered with us before or you're brand new, you'll want to reach out to Claudette Sanders at office@redlandsacademy.org. She can help you check on your current paperwork status or guide you through getting everything prepared.

Just a heads-up: sometimes there are updates to the required paperwork list that we receive later in the summer, so it's a good idea to keep an eye out for any announcements. Incomplete or outdated paperwork could delay your ability to volunteer or limit the types of activities in which you can participate.

CELL PHONE & PERSONAL DEVICE POLICY

We understand the importance of communication; however, at RAA, we believe that minimizing distractions fosters deeper learning, sparks creative thinking, and encourages richer social connection for all our students. Therefore, our no cell phone policy for all students in grades K-12 will continue for the 2025-2026 school year. We appreciate your reinforcing with your child the expectation that cell phones should be kept in their backpacks and either powered down or silenced during school hours.

If an urgent situation arises and necessitates contacting your child, please follow the guidelines outlined in the School Handbook.

Will your student have a phone next year? Let us know.



Back-to-School: GETTING READY FOR 2025-2026



The back-to-school season at our academy is designed to help everyone settle in smoothly for the new school year. We know you're super busy, so this year we're trying something new by packing as much as possible into one evening! Our welcoming Fall Picnic and Open House is your fantastic opportunity to not only get excited for the year to come and reconnect with other families but also to gather important information. You'll get familiar with our campus, meet teachers, and learn all about what the year has in store for your child's specific grade. Our aim is to make this transition easy, efficient, and positive, setting a great tone for the year ahead.

Please note that there may be a few additional events for new students as well as those going into 6th & 9th grades.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL:
Fall Picnic & Open House
AUGUST 19TH | 6:30PM



POLICY UPDATES

School Handbook →

As we continually strive to enhance our learning environment, we have implemented several policy updates for the upcoming academic year. These adjustments are designed to foster a more effective and supportive school experience for everyone. You will find a breakdown of these changes outlined below. For further details and a complete understanding of all new policies, please refer to the Agreements and the School Handbook.

ATTENDANCE

We understand that sickness, appointments, and other issues happen, and consistent attendance is key to student success. Excused absences, like those for medical appointments with a doctor's note or approved school activities, do not count against a student's record. However, unexcused absences, such as illness without a doctor's note or family vacations, will count towards absence limits. Please refer to the excused/unexcused chart in the school handbook.

TARDIES

To ensure a positive learning environment for everyone, we are clarifying our tardiness policy: arriving up to 15 minutes late to school or class is a tardy; beyond that, it is an absence. This helps us teach punctuality and minimize disruptions. All unexcused tardies count, and while parents can report a first-period tardy, it may not be excused. Please see the school handbook for complete details.

PARENT AMBASSADORS// PILOT PROGRAM

We're thrilled to announce the pilot year of our Parent Ambassador Program! This new initiative aims to boost community engagement and provide a warm, welcoming transition for new families. If you're interested in helping us build this vital program, please contact us or sign-up to learn more using the QR Code!



**LEARN
MORE**





Current & Coming CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

Building on the exciting progress from last year, which saw the unveiling of our newly renovated high school bathrooms and the new STEAM/Library outdoor space, this summer marks another significant step forward in our campus improvement plans.

HIGH SCHOOL LEARNING COMMONS: A Fresh New Space

Get ready for an exciting transformation behind Building 500 & 600 (the high school buildings) this summer! What was once playfully known as "the cage" is becoming a brand-new study area, complete with a small "kitchen" nook featuring microwave stations. This fantastic new space will flow seamlessly into what used to be the high school lunch tables, creating an expansive area perfect for learning, collaborating, and gathering as a community. To boost both ambiance and comfort, we're adding bistro lighting and fans. The current shade structure is also being replaced with a sleek, lower-profile design that boasts cleaner lines and blends beautifully with our campus's fresh look and existing architecture.

We're also busy with other enhancements to perfect this vibrant new area. We'll be painting, staining, and adjusting the concrete slab to ensure it's ready for the new shade structure, plus adding new planters and low retaining walls to further beautify the space. And to make sure this area is usable all year round, a new gutter system will keep it dry, even during inclement weather. We can't wait for you to experience this improved outdoor space!

MORE SUMMER UPDATES: Enhancements & New Looks

Beyond the transformative High School Learning Commons, a multitude of other exciting projects are underway to refresh our campus! You'll notice vibrant changes like fresh paint in various areas, from the new High School Learning Commons to the wall near the playground. Room 502 (the high school science classroom) is also getting a complete refresh with both a new coat of paint and new carpeting as part of our ongoing classroom update program. Accessibility is a key focus too, with crucial adjustments to the sidewalk between buildings 500 & 600 marking the first steps in a broader, campus-wide handicap accessibility improvement plan. Soon, everyone will be able to easily access all our beautiful new spaces!

We're also repurposing the navy blue awning from the high school lunch area to upgrade the elementary lunch space – a much needed enhancement. Finally, our campus trees are getting a much-needed trim and our access control system is being upgraded after recent lightning damage. Get ready to experience a more vibrant, functional, and beautiful campus during the 2025-2026 school year! We can't wait for you to see all the upgrades.



SUPPORT RAA

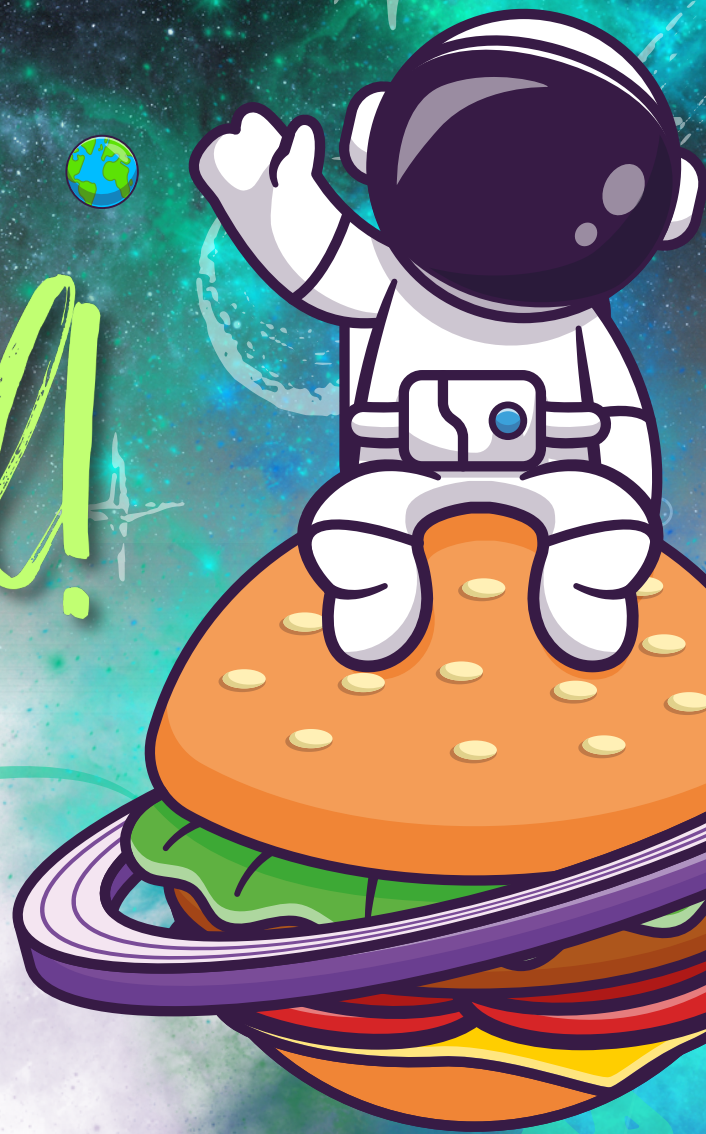
If you would like to support this project and/or other campus improvements, you can make a donation online by following the QR code below. Select "Campus Improvements" under the question, "Where would you like this donation to go?"

You can also make a donation online by going to "Support RAA" → "Support RAA" button → selecting the "Campus Improvements" option.

*Make A
Donation*



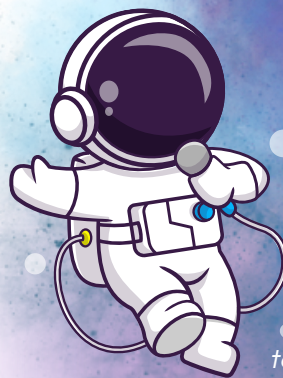
Out OF THIS World!



VOLUNTEER
AT THE
FALL FAIR

Join us for stellar games, intergalactic food, & astronomical adventures for the whole family at RAA's "Out of This World" Fall Fair.

Battle OF THE Bands*



Don't miss the second annual Battle of the Bands! This year we're opening up the competition to students, teachers, parents, and community members. May the best band win!

*Applications for entry into Battle of the Bands open up in August.

At the Fall Fair

* Open to students, parents, teachers & community members

ELEMENTARY

Agreement
DUE:
August 1



Tops: Stick to light blue, navy, or white solid-colored polos or button-up shirts with collars. Both long and short sleeves are acceptable. Please avoid large logos or prints. You can buy these from any store.

Outerwear: Jackets, sweaters, vests, cardigans, hoodies, winter coats, and trench coats should be black, gray, navy blue, or khaki/white/cream. All outerwear must be worn over a collared shirt.

Bottoms: Approved colors are navy blue, khaki, and black, also available from your preferred retailer. Skirts and shorts can be purchased from any store but must be knee-length. Pinafores & leggings are also permitted.

No jewelry | Shoes must be closed toed | Hats can be worn outside of the classrooms only

SCHEDULE/PULLOUTS

As we prepare for the new school year, we wanted to reiterate some of the enriching "pullout" programs that are a valuable part of your child's education. Students will continue to have Physical Education and Choir twice a week, and STEAM and Library once a week. These sessions are designed to build essential foundational skills, helping your child become well-rounded. As your children move into 5th grade, they'll again have the opportunity to explore their musical interests through handbells, band, or choir. And don't forget our after-school activities! The K-5 Pace Patrol run club meets weekly, and for students in 3rd grade and up we offer competitive sports. Your child's teacher will be sharing their specific daily schedule with you closer to the new school year.



IMPORTANT EVENTS

8/18	First Day of School - MINIMUM DAY
8/19	K-12 Pep Rally (10:00AM)
8/19	Back to School Night (6:30PM)
8/22	First Chapel
8/25	Fall Photos
9/1	Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
9/15-19	K-5 MAP Testing
9/29	Fall Picture Retake
10/10	Veteran's Day Assembly
10/13	Teacher In-Service - NO SCHOOL
10/14-17	Spirit Week
10/15	1st Quarter Ends
10/15	Unity Day
10/19	"Out of this World" Fall Fair

Got a question about your child's learning or well-being? Your child's teacher is always the best person to ask. For anything about billing or finances, the business office can help. And if you're ever unsure who to call, just reach out to the main office—they'll point you in the right direction!

PEER CIRCLES

We're thrilled to share that our pilot Peer Circles program was a huge success, boosting student well-being! We're expanding this key initiative to further strengthen mental, emotional, and social health for all of our students.

What are Peer Circles?

They are small, supportive groups where students connect confidentially to share experiences, offer guidance, and grow together.

**Participation is limited. If you're selected or have questions, please contact Ms. Mazo.*

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Agreement
DUE:
August 1



Tops: Stick to light blue, navy, or white solid-colored polos or button-up shirts with collars. Both long and short sleeves are acceptable. Please avoid large logos or prints. You can buy these from any store.

Outerwear: Jackets, sweaters, vests, cardigans, hoodies, winter coats, and trench coats should be black, gray, navy blue, or khaki/white/cream. All outerwear must be worn over a collared shirt.

Bottoms: Approved colors are navy blue, khaki, and black, also available from your preferred retailer. Skirts and shorts can be purchased from any store but must be knee-length.

No jewelry / Shoes must be closed toed / Hats can be worn outside of the classrooms only

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Great news, middle schoolers and families! We've made some slight adjustments to this year's schedule (please see "Programming" below), incorporating valuable feedback from our community. Every change was made with our students at heart, as we continuously strive to create the most supportive and effective learning environment possible.

This August, all students and parents will be able to view their finalized class schedules directly through their Family Portal. We're excited for you to see what's in store and encourage everyone to log in and access their schedules once they become available.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work to make this the best year yet!

General schedule outline will be available to view here even sooner.



PROGRAMMING

As you know, another Middle School year is coming up! Just a quick reminder: core subjects like English, Social Studies, Science, and Bible will continue, with Math from 6th Grade to Algebra 1 (8th grade will be either in Pre-algebra OR Algebra 1). We'll also offer Study Skills (7th/8th), STEAM across all grades, 6th Grade Art, and 7th/8th Grade Spanish, plus PE, Choir, Band, and Bells.

EVENTS/TRIPS

8/18	First Day of School - MINIMUM DAY
8/19	K-12 Pep Rally (10:00AM)
8/19	MS Ice Breakers
8/19	Back to School Night (6:30PM)
8/20	7 th /8 th Grade Parent Night
8/22	First Chapel
8/22	VESPERS
8/25	Fall Photos
9/1	Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
9/5	7 th Grade Welcome Back Party
9/8-12	6 th -8 th MAP Testing
9/12	MS Beach Day
9/29	Fall Picture Retake
10/10	Veteran's Day Assembly
10/13	Teacher In-Service - NO SCHOOL
10/14-17	Spirit Week
10/15	1 st Quarter Ends
10/15	Unity Day
10/19	"Out of this World" Fall Fair

K-12
CELL PHONE POLICY
Survey & Agreement

COMPLETE
DUE: Aug. 11





EXPANDING STUDENT LEADERSHIP

STUDENT SENATE (5th– 12th Grade)

We believe leadership isn't just learned; it's honed through time and practice. That's why we're thrilled to announce the launch of our new Student Senate and representative positions, which will be voted on by each class. These positions will meet monthly to tackle campus issues. This initiative stems from a core belief: when students are empowered to advocate for positive change within their school, they develop invaluable skills that will resonate throughout their entire lives.

STUDENT AMBASSADORS

We're also thrilled to launch our new Student Ambassador program. These dedicated students will represent our school, welcoming visitors and helping new students feel comfortable and connected from their very first day. It's a fantastic way for our students to build valuable communication skills while fostering a truly inclusive community.

More information coming soon!

HIGH SCHOOL

PROGRAM UPDATES

We're rolling out some fantastic new additions to our program. We'll have brand new courses like Speech, Statistics, and a new Freshmen Seminar to build essential skills, including study skills. We will also be sticking with our regular AP Science schedule, which means we will have AP Chemistry this year rather than AP Biology.

PROJECT IMPACT

This year, we're thrilled to introduce NHS Project IMPACT, an experience designed to empower our high school students and bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world impact, allowing NHS members to use their academic knowledge to make a genuine difference in the community. NHS members will choose and propose their own projects aligning with their passions, and will be responsible for creating and managing their own projects, fostering crucial real-world skills. We're incredibly excited to see the innovative ideas and impactful work our NHS members will come up with, and we can't wait for their end-of-year presentations!

PEER CIRCLES

We're thrilled to share that our pilot Peer Circles program was a huge success, boosting student well-being! We're expanding this key initiative to further strengthen mental, emotional, and social health for all our students.

What are Peer Circles?

They are small, supportive groups where students connect confidentially to share experiences, offer guidance, and grow together.

**Participation is limited. If you're selected or have questions, please contact Ms. Mazo.*

Your Academic GPS:

Mrs. Kathy Iwasa

Got questions about your grades, classes, or future plans? While your teachers handle learning and the business office handles billing, for all things academic—from grades and classes to college and career planning—be sure to visit Mrs. Kathy Iwasa, our registrar. She's here to help!



Timeline

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The National Honor Society is a prestigious organization that recognizes high school students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

AUGUST	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	DECEMBER	FEBRUARY	END OF FEBRUARY	SPRING	LAST TWO WEEKS
Back-to-School Party	NHS Leadership Retreat	NHS Project	Christmas Party	NHS Application Period	NHS Induction Ceremony	Teachers' Appreciation Dinner	NHS Project Presentations

UPDATE: All skirts MUST be KNEE LENGTH or longer.



Tops: Stick to light blue, navy, or white solid-colored polos or button-up shirts with collars. Both long and short sleeves are acceptable. Please avoid large logos or prints. You can buy these from any store.



Outerwear: Jackets, sweaters, vests, cardigans, hoodies, winter coats, and trench coats should be black, gray, navy blue, or khaki/white/cream. All outerwear must be worn over a collared shirt.



Bottoms: Approved colors are navy blue, khaki, and black, also available from your preferred retailer. Skirts and skorts can be purchased from any store but must be knee-length.

No jewelry | Shoes must be closed toed | Hats can be worn outside of the classrooms only

EVENTS/TRIPS

8/18	First Day of School - MINIMUM DAY
8/19	K-12 Pep Rally (10:00AM)
8/19	HS Ice Breakers
8/19	Back to School Night (6:30PM)
8/22	First Chapel
8/23-24	NHS Retreat
8/25	Fall Photos
9/1	Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
9/8-12	9 th -12 th MAP Testing
9/12	ASB Beach Day
9/14	NHS Kick-off Dinner (5:30PM)
9/17	College Fair (10:45AM-11:15AM)
9/22	Financial Aid Workshop (9 th & 10 th)
9/23	Financial Aid Workshop (11 th & 12 th)
9/25-27	Student Leadership Conference
9/29	Fall Picture Retake
10/8	SAT (7:45AM-11:00AM)
10/10	Veteran's Day Assembly
10/13	Teacher In-Service - NO SCHOOL
10/14-17	Spirit Week
10/15	1 st Quarter Ends
10/15	Unity Day
10/19	"Out of this World" Fall Fair

Agreement

DUE:
August 1



SCHEDULE

We've updated this year's schedule based on your feedback, and we're so excited about the changes! We crafted every adjustment with you, our students, in mind to create the best possible learning environment. You'll be able to view your finalized class schedules in the Family Portal this August. We can't wait for you to see them! Thanks for your understanding and cooperation as we make this the best year yet.

General schedule outline will be available to view here even sooner.



Redlands Adventist Academy's ONLINE MERCH STORE

Start the year off in style by visiting RAA's Online Merch store!

If you have something you would like to see, email your idea to marketing@redlandsacademy.org for a chance to see it on our site.



10% OFF

Discount Code:
BCK2SKOOL
Sale: 8/1-22/2025



Coming Soon

RAA Immersion TK Program



Expires: 11/01/2025



FREE

1 Free Print/Embroidery Logo using the BYOS option from our online Merch Store.

*Dress code compliant shirts only