



**RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
RANDOLPH MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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Dear Parent or Guardian:

The RMS Enrichment Program is designed to identify and address the needs of the gifted and talented population at Randolph Middle School.

The RMS Enrichment program is an interdisciplinary course of study encompassing multiple aspects of the major content areas: English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Science and Technology. The Enrichment Unit frameworks are compliant with state and national standards and predicated on best practice approaches for gifted education in that they are:

- Interdisciplinary and problem-based
- Abstract and advances higher-level thinking activities
- Flexible to incorporate student interests
- Geared to develop creativity, cognition, and research skills

Students must apply and be accepted into the Enrichment Program, which is offered as a semester cycle class. Acceptance into the program is determined through the use of a matrix. Evaluation criteria includes a written student self-nomination, parent statement and two recommendations from current teachers, one of which must be an academic area teacher (English, math, social studies or science) in addition to other components as applicable and aforementioned within this document.

Attached is the application packet for the program. Students will complete their self-nomination at school in their homerooms and request two Teachers to complete the Teacher Recommendation forms. Their parent or guardian will then complete the Parent Nomination form and share it with the student's homeroom teacher electronically or on a word document. All documentation is then attached in an email and sent to the student applicant's **5th grade homeroom teacher no later than April 21st, 2023**. The homeroom teacher will then forward the completed application to Mrs. Wisniewski at the middle school by **April 28st, 2023**. Completed Applications are reviewed in early summer and qualifying students will be scheduled for Enrichment during semester 1 or 2 of the 2022-2023 school year. Students find out whether or not they have been accepted into the program when they receive their RMS student schedules on Genesis in mid-August.

Thank you for your interest in the RMS Enrichment Program.

Sincerely,

David Kricheff
RMS Principal

**RANDOLPH MIDDLE SCHOOL
ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
APPLICATION PACKET
For Incoming 6th Grade Students**

In accordance with NJ State law, the application documents include the following items, but are not limited thereto*:

- Two (2) Teacher Recommendation forms: The student **does not** fill these out but must request **TWO** teachers to complete it on their behalf. ***Both recommendations must be from current academic school year teachers; at least one of the recommendations must be from a teacher in a core academic subject area (ELA, Math, Science or Social Studies).***
- Parent/Guardian Statement, may be submitted electronically,
- A Self Nomination Form is also completed by each student applicant at school,
- Most Recent Standardized Achievement Test scores,
 - Additional information will be obtained, when applicable, including but not limited to an interview, portfolio review, teacher observations and other instruments applicable to students who either have an IEP, a 504 or are an ESOL student:
 - A comprehensive definition of exceptional ability that encompasses a spectrum of cognitive, social, and emotional, artistic, linguistic, and logical-reasoning capabilities,
 - May acquire the new language at a faster than typical rate,
 - May demonstrate an ability to code switch or translate at an advanced level,
 - May display inventive leadership and/or imaginative qualities,
 - May read two years beyond grade level in the heritage language,
 - May problem-solve in creative, nonconforming ways.

Included in this Enrichment Packet, you will find the following...

1. Information about the enrichment program at RMS
2. Required Teacher Recommendation Forms (2)
3. Required Self-Nomination Form (interested students will complete this in school)
4. Required Parent/Guardian Statement

Information about the enrichment program at RMS

1. The enrichment program is a one semester (two marking period) course. The required financial literacy course is embedded within the 6th grade enrichment coursework. This means a student admitted to the program will take two other elective classes instead of three in sixth grade.
2. The overarching theme of the program is Leadership: “Creating Leaders of Today and Tomorrow”. There are three units of study in each grade, from a different historical era:
 - a. Research into influential leaders of the U.S. 1800s and how they relate to potential careers of individual student interest, talent, or passion,
 - b. STEAM Project on Modes of Transportation that relates back to technological developments of that period of under investigation, in addition to acquiring skills in Professional Multimedia Presentations and Public Speaking Skills, and concludes with
 - c. The Law & Mock Trials (specifically the re-enactment of the Lincoln Conspiracy with an analysis of other significant trials of that era)
3. Regarding the application:
 - d. All parts of the application are due to the homeroom teacher by April 21st.
 - e. Homeroom teachers submit the completed applications to RMS by April 28th.
 - f. The two teacher recommendations must be a student’s current teachers, this school year. One teacher must be an academic teacher (from L.A., Social Studies, Science or Math)
 - g. The other can be a specials teacher.
4. The student essay portion of the application will be completed in school in the student’s homeroom.
5. There is minimal homework as most of the work is done in school. The expectation is a 10-minute Reflection on what was accomplished in class that day, and the Ponder of what still needs to be addressed or answered),
6. If accepted into the program in 6th grade, students remain in the program for the remainder of their middle school years so long as they continue to meet the high standards of performance, including both academic and leadership expectations of the program,
7. Students who do not meet the minimum requirements for acceptance into the program initially, will be re-evaluated each semester thereafter during the remainder of their middle school experience,
8. Even if a student did not apply for the Enrichment course, all students at RMS are evaluated for admission into the program each semester, and their data updated each semester as well. Those students who are deemed eligible are then notified, along with their parents, as to their qualifying status, and those students are invited to join the program,

9. Outside of Enrichment, some students receive specific acceleration in academic areas based on their ability, or take courses that align with their special gifts and talents and accelerate their talents in those areas.

All completed applications must be returned to the student's homeroom teacher no later than April 21, 2023. Homeroom teachers will then electronically forward the completed packet (parent statement, student self-nomination form, and 2 completed teacher recommendation forms) to Mrs. Diana Wisniewski (dwisniewski@rtnj.org), Enrichment Teacher at RMS by April 28, 2023.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Wisniewski at dwisniewski@rtnj.org.

RANDOLPH MIDDLE SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

The teacher making this recommendation will return this completed form to the homeroom teacher for the following student. The Homeroom teacher will then forward the completed application to Mrs. Wisniewski at dwisniewski@rtnj.org on or before April 28, 2023 for the 2023-2024 academic school year.

Student _____ School _____ Grade _____ Date: _____

Teacher _____ Content Area in which you provide instruction _____

Assessment criteria: Please circle the number that best describes the frequency in which the student displays the behaviors listed below in your classroom:

Key: 0 = Never 1 = Almost Never 2 = Sometimes 3 = Often 4 = Always

1.	Generates many ideas and solutions to problems and questions	0	1	2	3	4
2.	Has ability to grasp concepts rapidly	0	1	2	3	4
3.	Memorizes easily	0	1	2	3	4
4.	Demonstrates advanced understanding of abstract ideas and information	0	1	2	3	4
5.	Sees patterns and relationships quickly	0	1	2	3	4
6.	Excels in specific areas	0	1	2	3	4
7.	Exhibits highly creative/divergent thinking	0	1	2	3	4
8.	Functions above grade level	0	1	2	3	4
9.	Demonstrates originality in discussions, projects, and assignment approaches	0	1	2	3	4
10.	Has an intense curiosity and loves to learn	0	1	2	3	4
11.	Demonstrates ability to plan logically	0	1	2	3	4
12.	Produces work of high quality that expresses insight, creativity, and/or excellence	0	1	2	3	4
13.	Pays attention to detail/precision on projects	0	1	2	3	4
14.	Has long attention span; shows ability to focus and concentrate	0	1	2	3	4
15.	Shows initiative; is self-directed and organized	0	1	2	3	4
16.	Desires to excel	0	1	2	3	4
17.	Demonstrates task commitment on extended projects	0	1	2	3	4
18.	Is enthusiastic about learning	0	1	2	3	4
TOTALS (total possible: 72)						

GRAND TOTAL (total possible: 72)

Student's Homeroom Teacher: _____

RANDOLPH MIDDLE SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

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Teacher _____ Content Area in which you provide instruction _____

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