

— August 2026 —

R. K. Smith Middle School

We are committed to ensuring that all students are critical thinkers and life-long learners in order to make a positive impact on society.

A Message from the Principal

Mr. Harold W. Blood

Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful, refreshing summer and are returning with renewed energy and enthusiasm. As your principal, I am thrilled to open our doors for the start of the 2026–2027 school year and welcome both returning families and those who are joining our R.K. Smith family for the first time.

This year, our guiding theme is "We Are One." This isn't just a catchy slogan; it is the core of who we are and how we operate. Real student success never happens in isolation. It takes a dedicated, unified effort from our faculty and staff, our hard-working students, our supportive parents, and our active community members. When we align our efforts, share our resources, and work towards the same goals, there is no limit to what our students can accomplish. As we embody this spirit, we hold fast to our central belief: "One mind, one mission, one vision, one RK Smith!"

To reach our highest potential this year, we will continue to hold all students accountable, maintain high expectations, and expect excellence in both academics and character. True success is never accidental—success is intentional. We are committed to providing every student with the tools, guidance, and daily support they need to take meaningful, actionable steps toward achieving their personal best.

Communication and partnership are vital to making this year a triumph. Please stay connected with us through our newsletter, follow us on social media, check our school website regularly, and feel free to reach out to our team whenever you have questions or ideas.

Thank you for your trust, your partnership, and your commitment to making R.K. Smith Middle School the absolute best place to learn and grow. Let's make the 2026–2027 school year our strongest one yet!

Warm regards,

Mr. Blood

Meet Our Administrative Team



Mr. Harold Blood, Principal
hblood@wearescpss.org

As the principal of R.K. Smith Middle School, it is my goal and duty to keep the “main thing, the main thing,” which is educating and preparing students to succeed academically, as well as socially, because success is intentional. Our driving principle is the motto that we stress: “Kids First.” I have been an educator for over 25 years. My education career in St. Charles Parish began in 1994 when I was hired as a para educator at the Court School that shared a campus with Eual J. Landry Middle School in Hahnville. I also coached football and track at Eual J. Landry. I attended Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas. I received my B.A. in Elementary Education from Southern University at New Orleans. I taught sixth-grade math at Ethel Schoeffner Elementary in Destrehan for six years, from 1999 to 2006. During that time I also attained my M.ED., in Administration and Supervision from Nicholls State University in Thibodaux. In 2006 I was appointed as the assistant principal of Raymond K. Smith Middle School, and in 2009 I was promoted to principal of Raymond K. Smith Middle School.



**Ms. Jennifer Green,
Assistant Principal**

jgreen@wearescpss.org

Qualifications: Bachelor of Arts:
1-8 Elementary Education;
Master of Arts in Education:
Curriculum and Instruction and
Educational Leadership



**Ms. Mindy Jones,
Assistant Principal**

mjones3@wearescpss.org

Qualifications: Bachelor of
Arts: 1-8 Elementary
Education; Master of Arts
in Education: Curriculum
and Instruction



**Ms. Letonya Coleman,
Dean of School Climate**

lc Coleman@wearescpss.org

Qualifications: Bachelor
of Science, Speech Pathology
& Audiology; Master of
Arts in Education/
Administration & Supervision

R. K. SMITH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Open House

Thursday, August 20

6:00 PM

Learn about school-wide expectations, visit your child's classrooms and meet their teachers, and get information about how you can support your student's success!

Venga a conocer a los Maestros

Jueves 20 de agosto

18:00 horas

¡Infórmese sobre las expectativas de toda la escuela, visite las aulas de su hijo y conozca a sus maestros, y obtenga información sobre cómo puede apoyar el éxito de su estudiante!



R. K. SMITH MIDDLE SCHOOL

281 Judge Edward Dufresne Pkwy; Luling, LA 70070

(985) 331-1018 rksmith.wearescpps.org

TIGER SPORTS & CLUBS

JOIN TODAY

Get Involved at RKS!

There's more to middle school than what happens in the classroom! Be on the lookout for information about upcoming club meetings and membership opportunities, including **Jr. Beta, Student Council, Robotics, 4-H, Chick-fil-A Leadership Academy, and more!**

At RKS, we love seeing our students get involved in activities that challenge them academically and socially, build leadership skills, serve their school and community, and connect with others who share their interests. Clubs are also a great way to try something new, make new friends, and discover talents you may not even know you have!

Interested in RKS Athletics?

Students should also be on the lookout for information about **upcoming tryouts** for football, girls volleyball, boys and girls basketball and cheerleading, and dance. Being part of an RKS athletic team is a great way to build teamwork, discipline, school spirit, and lasting friendships while representing our school!

IMPORTANT: Students must have a valid physical on file at RKS BEFORE they will be allowed to try out for any sport. Families are encouraged to take care of physicals early so students are ready when tryout dates are announced.

Find your place, get involved, and make the most of your year at RKS! Watch our school announcements for club meetings, athletic tryouts, and other opportunities to get involved.



RKS Weekly Information Guide:

Your Go-To Resource for Student Success

Stay Connected with Our Weekly Information Guides!

The school to home connection is essential to student success, and we want to make it as easy as possible for parents and guardians to stay engaged with what is happening in the classroom every day. You can access our Weekly Information Guides by visiting the RKS website or scanning the **QR code below for quick access!** There is a guide for each grade level and the guides are updated weekly. In each guide, you will find:

- **Daily Learning Activities:** A clear overview of what your child is learning in each class every day, giving you great conversation starters to ask them about their school day.
- **Upcoming Assessments:** Upcoming quizzes, tests, and major projects noted so you can help your child prepare and manage their study time effectively.
- **Direct Teacher Contact:** Convenient email links for each teacher, making it simple to reach out whenever you have questions, concerns, or need additional support.

Success is intentional, and these guides are designed to give you the tools you need to support your child's learning. We encourage you to bookmark the website and check your child's grade-level guide at the start of each week!



Raymond K. Smith Middle School 6th Grade Weekly Information Guide

This guide is provided to help students and families plan for upcoming activities, projects, assessments, etc. **Graded assessments are highlighted in yellow**; please note that daily classwork may be collected for a grade even if it is not indicated on this document. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher via email or phone. Dates listed below are subject to change based on student needs and dates.

Week of August 10, 2026

Subject		
ELA Click the link below to email the teacher: Mr. Boudreau Mr. Buchanan Mr. Adams	MONDAY	Students will explore and learn the routines, procedures, and expectations of ELA class. We will practice safety drills and get to know each other, beginning to build our classroom culture.
	TUESDAY	Students will explore and learn the routines, procedures, and expectations of ELA class. We will practice safety drills and get to know each other, beginning to build our classroom culture.
	WEDNESDAY	Students will be introduced to the CARES and participate in a collaborative problem solving activity to practice using the CARES.
	THURSDAY	Students will complete a pre-assessment, and use the results, along with last year's data, to work on goal setting for the year.
	FRIDAY	Students will read "Mulan's Beautiful Daughters" and complete a shared analysis writing.
Math Click the link below to email the teacher: Mr. MacIntyre Mr. Thomas Mr. Smith	MONDAY	routines/procedures/expectation of math class (students A-K)
	TUESDAY	routines/procedures/expectation of math class (students L-Z)
	WEDNESDAY	Set up binder/folders/materials for math class (all students)
	THURSDAY	Module 1 - Lesson 2 (Introduction to Ratios)
	FRIDAY	Module 1 - Lesson 3 (Ratios and Tape Diagrams)
Advanced/ Gifted ELA Click the link below to email the teacher: Ms. Cummings	MONDAY	Welcome, Rules & Procedures Review
	TUESDAY	Analyzing & Annotating Texts: "Charles" by Shirley Jackson
	WEDNESDAY	Analyzing & Annotating Texts: "Charles" by Shirley Jackson
	THURSDAY	"Charles" ACCS
	FRIDAY	Remarkable Accomplishments in Space Science Lesson 1
Advanced/ Gifted Math Click the link below to email the teacher:	MONDAY	Schoolwide routines and expectations; EQUIP Pre-Module Assessment HOW Charge your CB!
	TUESDAY	Schoolwide routines and expectations; EQUIP Pre-Module Assessment

ORIENTATION 2026 HIGHLIGHTS



Like & FOLLOW

Here's what's happening on our social media pages! Stay connected & follow along for the latest highlights, events, and Tiger pride moments! #rksmithmiddle #followus #kidsfirst

ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM @RKSMITHMIDDLE



Counselor's CORNER

Hello Parents and Students,

My name is Dr. Jasmine Dorsey, and I am the school counselor at R.K. Smith Middle School. As the counselor, I support students' social/personal, emotional, and academic growth. I am also a member of our SEL Champs team, where we work to integrate the 7 Mindsets curriculum into our daily Tiger Time each morning.

This school year, I will also be teaching 7 Mindsets wellness lessons to help students strengthen their social-emotional skills, build positive relationships, and develop strategies for success both inside and outside the classroom.

A little about me—I love baking, especially different types of cakes like a 7-Up cake being one of my favorites! In my free time, I enjoy shopping and spending time at the beach.

I am excited to work with our students and families this school year and look forward to partnering with you to help every student thrive. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or if I can support your child in any way.

Here's to a wonderful school year—Go Tigers!

Dr. Dorsey

School Counselor

jdorsey@wearescpss.org



HEALTH NOTES

from

OUR

NURSE

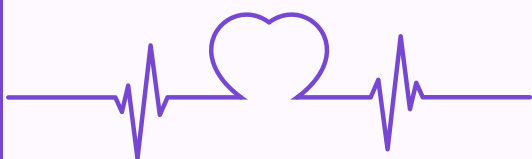
Students with medical diagnoses that require medication during the school day **must** have a medication order form completed by their doctor. Families may call the school to request that this form be sent home with the student or stop by the office to pick one up. This includes, but is not limited to, rescue inhalers, Epi-Pens, and ADHD medications. A parent or guardian must sign the medication in with the school nurse.

No student is allowed to carry any medication to school. This includes topical creams or ointments, oral medication, antibiotics, inhalers, cough drops, medicated lip balm, and more. Medication paperwork must be renewed each year; it does not carry over.

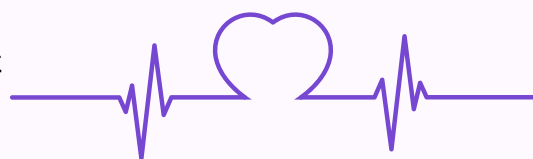


Students with dietary allergies or restrictions must also have a dietary form completed by their doctor. Forms are available in the school office or can be sent home by request. This paperwork is required by Child Nutrition so they can flag the student's account and ensure they are not given foods or drinks that could trigger an allergic reaction. **A new form must be submitted each year.**

All students are also required to be up to date on **state-mandated immunizations**, which are given at ages 4, 11, and 16. Please check your child's records and schedule an appointment with their doctor if they need to catch up on any required vaccines. An updated immunization certificate should be submitted to the school once completed.



School Nurse: Aspen Jack
ajack@wearescpss.org



Safety Tip of the Month

Did You Know? Knowing what to do during an emergency helps keep everyone safe. Throughout the year, students will participate in safety drills to practice how to respond calmly and quickly. These drills help prepare everyone to respond confidently in a real emergency.

How Families Can Help:

Make sure your child's emergency contacts are current. If you need to update any information, please contact Ms. Maranda Smith, School Office Specialist, at (985) 331-1018.

Remind your child to wear their school ID every day. If your child forgets his/her ID, a temporary ID will be issued. Replacement IDs can be purchased for \$5. Encourage your child to follow staff directions immediately during drills.

Safety Starts With All of Us!

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Management Plan



In 1986 all asbestos materials were identified in all school buildings. A management plan was developed for each school as per the **Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)**. The management plan is located in a binder in the main office of each school. The binders are available for review upon request.

Since the plan was developed, most of the asbestos has been removed. In a few buildings, some floor tile still remains that contains asbestos. All of the schools meet the health requirements that pertain to the regulation. If you have any questions concerning this topic, please contact Kevin Barney, Director of Physical Plant Maintenance at 985-331-3600 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.



A FAMILY GUIDE TO

The 7 Mindsets

The *7 Mindsets* is a mindset-based learning solution that helps young people develop the beliefs, habits, and life skills needed to thrive in school, relationships, and beyond. Built on decades of research into the habits of happy, accomplished people, it offers a proven path to academic achievement, strong relationships, and resilience. Over years of real-world use it has been refined to help unlock each student's potential.

5M+

students empowered

15+ yrs

in real classrooms

Research

backed & refined

WHY MINDSETS-BASED INSTRUCTION?

Our mindsets shape how we see the world, ourselves, and our potential. Instead of teaching isolated skills, mindsets-based learning builds the positive attitudes that make students want to learn and grow for the rest of their lives.

Research in positive psychology, growth mindset, and emotional intelligence shows that believing in yourself improves emotional well-being, achievement, and life outcomes.

This approach is powerful because it helps students become more motivated, resilient, and adaptable. These traits sit at the heart of lifelong learning.

When students believe they can grow, they're more likely to take on challenges, keep going when things get hard, and seek out new skills along the way

THE 7 MINDSETS

As we move through the year, you'll get a dedicated guide for each mindset, with practical tips and conversation starters for home. Here's the quick overview.

1 Everything is Possible
Inspires hope. Dream big, embrace creativity, stay positive, and grow from mistakes.

3 We are Connected
Strengthens belonging. Embrace everyone and build meaningful relationships.

5 Attitude of Gratitude
Develops thankfulness. Appreciate your gifts and find the good in every moment.

7 The Time is Now
Sparks engagement. Take initiative and act purposefully toward your goals.

2 Passion First
Ignites purpose. Lead with your strengths, interests, values, and aspirations.

4 100% Accountable
Builds self-belief. Own your choices, your effort, and every outcome.

6 Live to Give
Instills significance. Serve others and make a positive impact on the world.

★ Together at home
Watch for each guide coming home, and use the starters to keep the conversation going.

August 2026 Middle School Menus St. Charles Parish Public Schools

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
Menus are subject to change.



The original value meal &
still a fantastic deal!

BREAKFAST

\$1.65

LUNCH

\$2.15

To apply for Free/Reduced Priced meals go to:

www.myschoolapps.com

You can also contact us at: 985-785-3181
or childnutrition@wearescps.org

Monday, August 10	Tuesday, August 11	Wednesday, August 12	Thursday, August 13	Friday, August 14
Breakfast Pop Tarts Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Pop Tarts Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Cinnamon Roll Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Sausage Biscuit Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Muffin w/Cheese Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice
Lunch Chicken Tenders Crinkle Cut Fries Green Beans Peaches Chocolate Chip Cookie	Lunch Chicken Tenders Crinkle Cut Fries Green Beans Peaches Chocolate Chip Cookie	Lunch Turkey & Sausage Gumbo Steamed Rice Potato Salad Cucumber/Tomato Salad Banana	Lunch Spaghetti & Meatsauce Broccoli Florets Italian Salad Garlic Bread Pineapple Tidbits	Lunch Mini Corn Dogs Crinkle Cut Fries Carrots & Celery w/Ranch Orange Wedges

AVAILABLE DAILY

Every day at Lunch
DeV Sandwich

Mon/Weds/Fri Special
Fresh Hot Pizza

Tuesday's Special
(selection rotates weekly)
Chicken Sandwich
Grilled Cheese Sandwich

Thursday's Special
Hamburger or Cheeseburger

Monday, August 17	Tuesday, August 18	Wednesday, August 19	Thursday, August 20	Friday, August 21
Breakfast Pancake on a Stick Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Chicken Biscuit Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast French Toast Sticks Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Sausage Biscuit Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Donut Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice
Lunch Chicken Nuggets Curly Fries Cal Blend Veggies Cinnamon Apple Slices	Lunch Chicken Alfredo Broccoli Florets Steamed Carrots Dinner Roll Pineapple Tidbits	Lunch Chili, Fritos Garden Salad Steamed Corn Banana Cake or Crisp	Lunch Fish Nuggets Macaroni & Cheese Green Beans Cucumber & Tomato Salad Pears	Lunch Pastalaya Green Beans Garden Salad Fresh Orange Wedges



Every complete meal we serve
comes with your choice of low fat
or nonfat milk!

Monday, August 24	Tuesday, August 25	Wednesday, August 26	Thursday, August 27	Friday, August 28
Breakfast Grits w/Sausage Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Chicken Biscuit Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Cinnamon Roll Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Sausage Biscuit Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Parfait, Egg Bites Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice
Lunch Red Beans & Rice Mustard Greens Steamed Carrots Cornbread Peaches	Lunch Tacos w/Shredded Cheese Steamed Corn Refried Beans Taco Salad Cup, Salsa Apple Wedges	Lunch Italian Bake Broccoli Florets Italian Salad Garlic Bread, Banana Jello w/Topping	Lunch Turkey Stew Steamed Rice Candied Yams Steamed Cabbage WATERMELON	Lunch General Tso Chicken Lo Mein Noodles Edamame Asian Salad Orange Wedge

Monday, August 31	Tuesday, September 1	Weds, September 2	Thursday, September 3	Friday, September 4
Breakfast Confetti Pancakes Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Chicken Biscuit Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast French Toast Sticks Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Sausage Biscuit Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice	Breakfast Waffle Cereal w/Graham Crackers Yogurt w/Tiger Bites Fruit or Juice Choice
Lunch Totchos Green Beans Cornbread Applesauce	Lunch Roasted Chicken Loaded Mashed Potatoes Steamed Corn DINNER Roll Apple Wedges	Lunch Grilled Cheese Sandwich Veggie Soup Garden Salad Banana Brownie	Lunch Sweet & Sour Meatballs Macaroni & Cheese Broccoli Florets Carrots Pineapple Tidbits	Lunch Enchiladas Southwest Corn Salad Cup Orange Wedges

Watermelon Fun Facts

It's classified as both a fruit and a vegetable.

Watermelons live up to their name! They are 92% water!

There are over 100,000 acres of watermelons grown in the U.S., producing over 40 million pounds.

There are roughly 1,200 varieties of watermelons!

44 out of the 50 states in the U.S. grow watermelon.

The first watermelon harvest on record took place in Egypt nearly 5,000 years ago!

www.FarmCreditofVirginia.com

Knowledge Center

AUGUST DAILY & WEEKLY CELEBRATIONS:

NATIONAL WATERMELON DAY : AUG 3

NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK : AUG 2-8

WORLD WATER WEEK: AUG 23-27

BE KIND TO HUMANKIND WEEK: AUG 25-31

AUGUST MONTHLY CELEBRATIONS:

NATIONAL PEACH MONTH

NATIONAL SANDWICH MONTH

BACK TO SCHOOL MONTH

NATIONAL PANINI MONTH

NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH