

Rippon Math and Science Specialty Program



Welcome to Rippon!

Ms. Donahue
Principal



Mrs. Parsons
Assistant Principal
6th Grade Administrator



Mrs. Bertrand
Co-coordinator of the Math and Science Program & Math Department
Chairperson

Ms. Bicey
Co-coordinator of the Math and Science Program & Science Department
Chairperson

Ms. Van Tassel and Ms. Chiaramonte
Gifted Education Teachers



Program Background

- ▶ Our Math and Science Specialty Program makes up approximately 25% of Rippon Middle School.
- ▶ Our specialty program students come from over 25 different elementary schools and 5 middle schools.
- ▶ Our school is very diverse with our students representing over 20 different nations!
- ▶ There are about 265 students currently in the program.



Program Expectations

To ensure the high standards of this accelerated program, we will uphold the following criteria:

- ▶ Teachers will provide students with a rigorous learning experience at an accelerated pace.
 - ▶ Math - Students will be in Extended Math and finish the program with 1 or 2 high school credits.
 - ▶ Science - Students will be in Science Enrichment and complete several inquiry-based activities.
- ▶ Students are expected to maintain a B or higher in all Math and Science Courses.
- ▶ Students are expected to maintain a C or higher in all classes, including Encore classes.
- ▶ Students are expected to have a Satisfactory or higher in work habits and conduct in all classes, including Encore.
- ▶ Students will honor all aspects of the Code of Behavior.
- ▶ Students will earn a 450 or higher on the Math SOL, 400 or higher on the Reading SOL, and the appropriate end of year exam score in Science and Social Studies.

Math and Science Program Dismissal Process

What happens when a student does not meet contract requirements?

Math and Science Program Academic Dismissal Process

Warning
Letter

- ONE report card of not meeting grade, conduct, work habit requirements or receiving administrative referral



Probation
Letter

- TWO report cards of not meeting grade, conduct, work habit requirements or receiving administrative referral



Dismissal
Letter

- THREE report cards of not meeting grade, conduct, work habit requirements or receiving administrative referral

Rippon MS Specialty Program Contract Violations

- ▶ Contracts and details of the Dismissal Process will be distributed the first week of school. Please review this with your student, sign it, and return it to your student's science teacher.
- ▶ Support for students in violation of the contract may include:
 - ▶ Conference with teachers, counselor, student, and parents
 - ▶ Establish goals and supports needed
 - ▶ Spend time reviewing basic skills or reviewing lesson videos online
 - ▶ Find a study buddy or tutor to re-teach or practice skills with
 - ▶ Monitor student's behavior and academic progress
 - ▶ Review student's progress at the end of the next quarter
- ▶ Parents & Students, please review all communications sent by the school and your child's teachers and use ParentVUE and StudentVUE to monitor students' academic progress weekly.

Mathematics

Accelerated Pathway

6th Grade

6 Extended

SOL Test - Math 6

7th Grade

7 Extended

SOL Test - Math 8

8th Grade

Algebra I

SOL Test - Algebra I

*High School Verified Credit



Promoted Pathway

6th Grade

7 Extended

SOL Test - Math 8

7th Grade

Algebra I

SOL Test - Algebra I

*High School verified credit

8th Grade

Geometry

SOL Test - Geometry

*High School verified credit

Science Enrichment

- ▶ All students in the class are in the Math and Science Specialty Program.
- ▶ Students are always ahead of the other classes and complete at least one project per quarter.
- ▶ Enhanced Units are Completed Each Quarter.
 - ▶ Ex. Anatomy, Coding, Forensics, and Fire!
- ▶ All Math and Science Students are required to complete a Science Fair Project.
 - ▶ Parent Information Night - September 24, 2025, at 6:30 pm
 - ▶ Science Fair Awards - March 4, 2026, at 6:30 pm



Classroom Activities

- ▶ The Mathematics and Science classroom teachers will enhance and extend the learning in the classroom.
- ▶ Examples:
 - ▶ Inquiry Based Labs
 - ▶ Stock Market Project - Trading Simulation
 - ▶ STEM Challenges
 - ▶ STEM Career Research and Presentations
 - ▶ Reverse Engineering Activities
 - ▶ Breakout EDU Challenges
- ▶ Gifted Program - If you are a Gifted Student, you will have a class in your Elective rotation.

What will the school day look like?

- ▶ You will have four (4) core classes (Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies), one (1) academic enrichment class (Ex. Language Literature, Journalism, etc.), and three (3) elective classes per quarter.
 - ▶ You will see all 4 core classes, the academic enrichment class, and 2 elective classes per day.
 - ▶ PE and music class will rotate on an A/B schedule. Your other elective class will not rotate but will change quarterly.
 - ▶ The first class of the day is also considered to be your homeroom. There is a 15-minute advisory period before the class starts.

Sixth Grade Schedule

Class Periods	Times
Advisory	8:10 am - 8:25 am
Period 1 - Elective	8:25 am - 9:12 am
Period 2 - Elective	9:17 am - 10:04 am
Period 3	10:09 am - 10:56 am
Period 4 (Lunch)	11:01 am - 12:13 pm
Period 5	12:18 pm - 1:05 pm
Period 6	1:10 pm - 1:57 pm
Period 7	2:02 pm - 2:50 pm

Lunch	Times
Sixth Grade A Lunch	11:15 am - 11:40 am
Sixth Grade B Lunch	11:43 am - 12:08 pm

Student Success

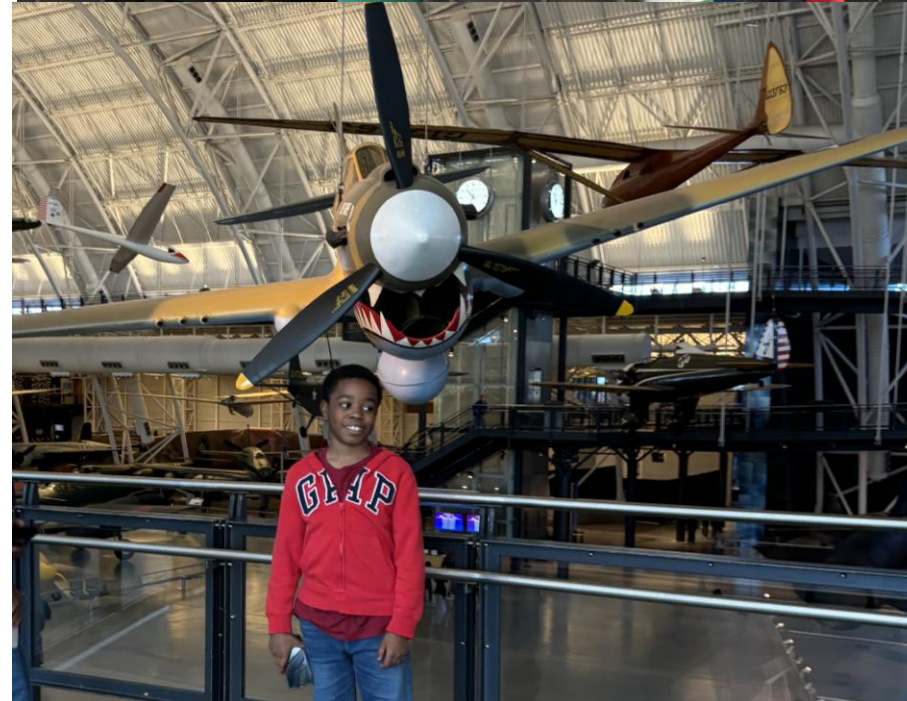
- ▶ Here are some tips to help you succeed this year:
 - ▶ Know your password for the iPad. If needed, write it down and keep it in a safe place. Bring your charged device & cord every day.
 - ▶ Become familiar with Canvas and other platforms used by your teachers.
 - ▶ Check your Microsoft 365 (Outlook) e-mail often. This is one of the ways teachers communicate with the students.
 - ▶ Establish a system to remind yourself of homework, projects, and tests. A digital or paper calendar can be used to assist you.
 - ▶ Check StudentVue twice a week to view your grades in every class. If you have any NHI's or low grades, speak with your teacher about how you can improve.

Student Success

- ▶ Utilize the practice activities that the teachers provide in Canvas and other platforms.
- ▶ Take note of your summative assignments. They count for 80% of your overall grade for each quarter.
- ▶ If you are absent, check Canvas to see if there is an assignment listed for you to complete. Once you return to school, speak with your teacher about the assignments that you missed.
- ▶ At the end of each class, spend a moment summarizing what you learned and areas that you still need more practice with.
- ▶ If at any time you feel that you need help, just ask. Your teachers are here to support you and will help you as needed.

Field Trips

- ▶ The students take 1-2 extra field trips each year as a Math and Science group.
- ▶ Examples:
 - ▶ NASA testing facility
 - ▶ Hylton Planetarium
 - ▶ Hershey Park STEM day
 - ▶ Science and Engineering Expo - Washington D.C.
 - ▶ National Aquarium
 - ▶ Kings Dominion - Education Days Coaster Mania
 - ▶ Hemlock Regional Park
 - ▶ Udvar Hazy Air and Space Museum
 - ▶ Q?rius Lab - Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History



Clubs and Sports Available

Clubs

- ▶ Anime
- ▶ Art
- ▶ BOSS/EmpowHer
- ▶ Ecology
- ▶ Games
- ▶ Mathletes
- ▶ National Junior Honor Society
- ▶ Robotics
- ▶ Step Team
- ▶ Yearbook



Sports

- ▶ Volleyball
- ▶ Football
- ▶ Cheerleading
- ▶ Boys and Girls Soccer
- ▶ Boys and Girls Basketball
- ▶ Boys and Girls Track
- ▶ Wrestling
- ▶ Baseball
- ▶ Softball



Math and Science Program T-shirts

- ▶ New Math and Science Program Shirts are coming this school year.
- ▶ Students are required to wear these t-shirts on all M/S program field trips.
- ▶ You will receive the shirt below this year.



Technology

- ▶ iPads will be distributed to students on the first week of school in their first class of the day.
- ▶ The students will be keeping the same device the three years they are at Rippon MS.
- ▶ Insurance for the iPads can be purchased.



Specialty Program Express Bus Stops

- ▶ Express Bus Stops have been created for transfer students in the Math and Science Program.
- ▶ If you have any questions about your bus stop, you can contact Mary Hayes in transportation.
 - ▶ **Mary Hayes**
Specialty Programs
571.402.3916
HayesME@pwcs.edu
- ▶ Note: If your child is playing a sport or staying after school, there are no specialty program buses to transport them after the regular route runs.
- ▶ We have activity buses for students who live within the Rippon Boundaries.

Contact Information

- ▶ Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns that you may have.
- ▶ Mrs. Bertrand - bertracj@pwcs.edu
- ▶ Ms. Bicey - biceysd@pwcs.edu
- ▶ School phone number: 703-491-2171
- ▶ Questions?

Follow us on Twitter!
<https://twitter.com/ripponmiddle>



QUIZ TIME!

- ▶ Please raise your hand if you know the answer to the questions asked.
- ▶ There will be prizes.
- ▶ Good luck!