

River Oaks Academy



One School, One Team

Empowering Our Students for Success!

Parent-Scholar Handbook

2023-2024

Vision Statement: At River Oaks Academy, we will continue to grow as a community through collaboration to empower our scholars to be productive and prepared members of the global community. We will continue to be lifelong learners that embrace all aspects of learning and teaching with a focus on equitable education opportunities and excellence for all.

Mission Statement: River Oaks Academy empowers scholars to reach their maximum potential by providing opportunity for collaboration, critical thinking, and enhanced social emotional skills and awareness. Personal goals are developed with feedback and coaching to provide the opportunity for the continuous growth of all staff and scholars.

Dear River Oaks Families,

We would like to take a moment to welcome you to the 2023-2024 school year at River Oaks Academy. We will continue to focus on uniting as: One School, One Team – Empowering our Scholars for Success. We take great pride in our school and are excited for the opportunity to partner with you! Our goal is to impart knowledge and skills to our scholars that prepare them to be members in the global community. As teachers we will facilitate instruction that supports all learners and develops them to become lifelong learners. We believe that all scholars possess the desire to learn and grow and we are dedicated to giving them the opportunity to achieve academically and build their social emotional skills. Further, we believe students have a shared responsibility in helping themselves to reach their full potential. As parents and guardians of our scholars, you are the champions and advocates to build success. A scholar who achieves this does so with the help of many people. It is important to recognize the worth and merit of everyone involved in the process of educating a scholar. By working together, scholars can often achieve results that would be difficult for them to attain alone. We will collaborate as staff, students, and guardians to unite as One School, One Team. As parents, and or guardians, there are many ways that you can support your scholar's learning.

Make school important: Insist on good attendance and punctuality. Your scholar learns from you, so be an important role model for them. Be positive about learning. Instruction begins promptly at 8:30 am each day and ends at 3:30 pm. Please make every effort to avoid late arrivals and/or checking scholars out of school before dismissal and ensure that your child is at school every day unless they are sick.

Check your scholar's agenda daily, the Parent Square App and review the Thursday folder: These are important communication tools between home and school. Agendas are a great organizational tool for scholars. You can also use this to communicate with your child's teacher. In addition, we utilize Parent Square to keep parents updated on behavior and classroom activities, as well as, school events. The Thursday folder will be sent home each Thursday. Please review your scholar's work and review any notes from school.

Encourage high but realistic expectations for student achievement: Maintain a supportive home by showing interest in your scholar's progress at school and staying in touch with teachers. Participate in parent engagement events to learn how you can support the learning at home. Attend conferences to know current achievement levels of your scholar.

Encourage persistence: Scholar's need to believe that they can become smarter through their own efforts. They need to be taught how to set realistic goals and identify steps for achieving them. An important part of the process is helping them to think of ways to overcome difficulties. Allow your scholar to make mistakes and learn from them.

The high expectations we hold for all scholars are based upon our conviction that all scholars can learn and succeed. A strong partnership between home and school will ultimately support student achievement! Thank you for your support!!

Warmest Regards,

Stephanie Gust, Principal

Contact information:

School Telephone 980-344-1020 **Fax** 980-343-1816

1015 Mount Holly Huntersville Road

Charlotte NC. 28214

[Http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/riveroaksES](http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/riveroaksES)

Arrival/Dismissal Information

8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

7:50 TEACHERS ARRIVE AT SCHOOL

8:00-8:30 BUSES ARRIVE

8:00 DOORS OPEN FOR SCHOLARS/BREAKFAST PROGRAM OPENS

8:30 TARDY BELL RINGS/BREAKFAST CLOSSES FOR CAR RIDERS

3:30 DISMISSAL TIME FOR STUDENTS

Attendance Process

Scholars are expected to attend school daily. Instruction starts promptly at 8:30 a.m. When scholars arrive late, they are missing a vital part of the curriculum. Having them here daily will ensure exposure and instruction needed to give them the academic gains needed for grade level success. If scholars are out for any reason, please send a note explaining their absence on the next day. All absences without notes are documented as 'unexcused'. Please note, that any absence equates to loss of instruction, and should be avoided when possible. If a scholar comes in after 11:30 or leaves prior to 11:30 am, s/he will be counted absent. Scholars that miss more than 10% of the school year are considered chronically absent and follow up communication and meetings will be set up to address the concern.

Unexcused Absences:

- 3 unexcused absences: Teacher phone call home and 3-day attendance letter sent by secretary/counselor
- 6 unexcused absences: Teacher phone call home, counselor phone call home, 6-day attendance letter sent by secretary
- 10 unexcused absences: 10- day attendance letter sent by secretary, Parent will be contacted by counselor and admin to schedule truancy meeting

Definition of an Excused Absence: Death in the immediate family (1-3 days), Court or administrative proceeding, Current doctor's note, Parent's note for sickness/illness (Three consecutive days requires a doctor's note), Suspension from school (OSS), Religious observance (See CMS Approved List), Approved Administrative educational opportunity

Connect Ed Calls:

Each Sunday, Ms. Gust will send out River Oak's Sunday Message to provide school information, events and reminders via ConnectEd, an automated phone and email messaging system. Please make sure your correct telephone numbers are provided to the office so you can receive these phone messages. Please inform a member of the main office staff of changes to contact information. Delayed Opening, Early Dismissal, or Cancellation of School will also be communicated through this means and CMS communications on their website or the news/radio programs. This notification will be available by 5:30 a.m. via media announcements – television and radio stations, a Connect Ed phone message and the CMS website www.cms.k12.nc.us. Parents are encouraged to listen to the television and radio reports if they anticipate the closing of school. In the event of cancellation, all CMS-sponsored activities for scholars will be canceled. If weather conditions worsen during the day after scholars have arrived at school, local radio stations will make an announcement regarding early dismissal.

Dismissal Process

Car riders will be dismissed from the front entrance, and buses will be dismissed from the bus lot. For the first few weeks, scholars may arrive at their bus stops a little late until the routes are worked out. We ask that you work with us as we go through the process.

If your scholar is a car rider, please have them picked up no later than 3:45 pm. You will pick up scholars in the area at the front entrance to the school, which is designated "Student Pick-up". We utilize two lines in the parking lot to keep cars off the road. Lines and arrows are clearly marked and we ask that you refrain from cutting through parking spaces upon entering the parking lot. ***Parents should not park on the hill as this causes a visual obstruction and a safety risk for our other families as they try to enter and exit the school parking lot.***

At River Oaks, we use a car tag/number system for all car riders. If your child will be a car rider consistently for any portion of the week, please be sure to sign up for a number. If you will have more than one person that picks up on a regular basis, please indicate that. We will provide 2 tags per scholar. Please place the hang-tag sent home with your scholar's # on it in the window (on mirror) so that staff will know whom to call. Please remain in your car when you come through the car rider line. The staff on duty will call in to let us know which students to send out. For safety reasons, all cars should have the student's number in order to pick up their student. If for some reason someone other than the normal person is coming to pick up, please ensure that they have the scholar's number. If parents choose to walk to the school to pick up their scholars, they should be at the door at 3:30 to get their child, or they will be required to wait until the car rider line lessens.

Early Dismissal - We realize that periodically scholars may have to be picked up early. We ask that you do this in emergency situations only. ***Cut-off time for early dismissal is 2:30 pm.*** No scholars will be dismissed after 2:30 pm. If you know you have a doctor's appointment or need to get your scholar early, please send a note to the teacher, or fax or email the information to us so that we have your request in writing before 2:30. There is much to be learned, and reviewed at the end of the day; staff is still instructing, homework is being reviewed, any changes in buses are being relayed to staff, and we want scholars and staff to be focused so that learning is fluid. If someone other than yourself will be picking your scholar up from school, please ensure that the person is listed on the emergency contact list. Lastly, be prepared to show ID when you arrive to request scholars.

ASEP- Before and after school care will be available for those parents who need to drop their scholars off early, or those who need extended care at the end of the school day. Hours of operation are 6:45 am-8:05 and 3:30-6:00 pm. You may pick up applications in the office, the website, or from the ASEP office.

Bus Transportation

The same behaviors that are appropriate for the classroom are appropriate on the school bus. Riding the bus is a privilege that may be revoked if rules are not obeyed. Below you will find some general bus rules and regulations. Please go over these rules with your scholar before he/she rides the bus.

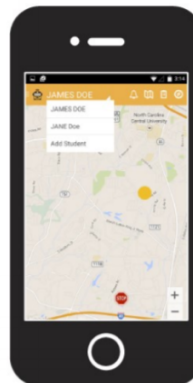
At the bus stop	On the bus	Leaving the bus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arrive at the assigned stop ten minutes before the scheduled time (remain for 10 min. after before leaving the stop) ● Stand on the sidewalk or the edge of the street by the curb ● Stay off private property ● Be respectful and watch for oncoming traffic ● Refrain from obscene behavior and vandalism ● Wait quietly and in an orderly manner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Remain seated at all times ● Cooperate with the driver and practice orderly conduct ● No profanity ● No eating or drinking ● No body parts outside of the bus ● No throwing things outside the bus ● No radio or electronic audio/visual devices ● No unsafe objects or weapons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop ● Leave in an orderly manner and only at the school or your assigned stop ● Cross in front of the bus when the bus driver tells you to cross

Here Comes the Bus:

HERE COMES THE BUS – WELCOME ON BOARD!

Here Comes the Bus is a school bus tracking locator app that can simplify morning routines for parents and students by giving them real-time bus location and alerts to help them get to the bus stop on time. Here Comes the Bus utilizes GPS data and an easy to use customizable map that works on a computer, tablet or smartphone.

- Free for CMS families.
- Available for download at <https://herecomesthebus.com> OR Here Comes the Bus on App Store and Google Play.
- **Parents need district code 73877 and student's ID number.**
- Tech support available from app. or CMS Transportation 980-343-6715/transportation@cms.k12.nc.us.
- Locate buses of multiple students in same account.
- Parents and students should be at stop by assigned time.
- May not accurately track substitute buses.
- Works for morning and afternoon assigned bus service; does not track afterschool, athletics, or other transportation.



For more information, [click here.](#)

<http://www.cms.k12.nc.us/cmsdepartments/transportation/Pages/Here-Comes-The-Bus.aspx>

Change of Transportation:

It is best for all scholars to have a consistent afternoon transportation routine. If your scholar's afternoon transportation must change, please send a note to the teacher that morning explaining the change and how the scholar will get to the destination. Scholars will not be allowed to ride a different bus. Scholars will go home according to their regular routine if a note is not received. Please do not call the school after 11:30 a.m. to request a transportation change. Due to the limited staff and the hectic nature of our front office during lunch time and at the end of the day, your request may not be received by the teacher before dismissal. Emails and faxes for transportation changes should be followed up with a phone call to ensure we have received and read it. Bus scholars will be escorted to the bus by their teacher. Car riders should be picked up at the front entrance of the school following the established traffic pattern. Van/daycare riders will board their transportation vehicles on the bus lot.

Access to Scholars:

Only parents (custodial and noncustodial) and/or legal guardians may have access to their scholar during the school day unless the parent/legal guardian has given prior written consent to a third-party. Unless there is an order of the court to the contrary, each parent shall have equal access to the scholar and their educational records. A copy of custody orders should be provided to the principal. Information about scholars and access to scholars will be provided to law enforcement agents and DSS agents in accordance with CMS Board policies and state law.

Lost and Found

Please label all of your scholar's personal items such as clothing, lunchboxes, etc. clearly in ink. The school cannot be responsible for any of these items. Items turned in to the office that are plainly marked will be returned to the owner. Unmarked items will be placed in Lost and Found. Please check with the secretary if you have lost something. Unclaimed items are donated to worthy charities.

Change of Address

It is essential for the safety of your scholar, that we are able to reach you in case of an emergency. Therefore, we ask that you update the office as soon as possible whenever you have a change in your contact information (home number, work number, or address). This includes changes in emergency contacts other than parents/legal guardians. Please promptly notify the school office of your new address and provide an updated proof of residence.

Illness and Accidents at School

Information regarding student health history must be completed with current emergency contacts and other health information. Included in this information should be contact numbers and work numbers where you can be reached during the school day in the event of a medical emergency. It is vital that we be able to reach you if an emergency occurs. If your scholar has a chronic illness, expect to be contacted by the nurse asking for additional information.

Under the following conditions, scholars must be sent home: contagious disease, vomiting, diarrhea, and temperature of 100⁰ F or above. Scholars should be without fever, diarrhea, or vomiting for 24 hours before returning to school.

When minor injuries occur, school personnel will administer first aid treatment; however, we cannot use OTC medicines like antibacterial ointments or cleansing agents to clean minor wounds. Only water and soap can be used by school staff. For serious injury, parents or guardians will always be contacted.

Please make sure that we always have your current home and work telephone numbers, address, and a person to contact in case of an emergency.

Immunization

If you are new to our school system, please make sure that the school has a copy of your scholar's immunization record upon enrollment. If your scholar is in kindergarten, a physical assessment completed by your health care provider must also be submitted. State law requires the following

Minimum Immunizations:

<u>Pre-K</u>	<u>Grades K – 4</u>	<u>Grades 5 – 6</u>
4 DTP/DTaP/DT	5 DTP/DTaP/DT/Td	5 DTP/DTaP/DT/Td/Tdap
3 Polio	4 Polio (Note: 4 th dose due on or after 4 th birthday as of 7/1/15)	4 Polio
1 - 4 Hib (Note: Dose # depends on vaccine type and age when vaccinated)	1 - 4 Hib (Note: not required after the age of 5 yrs.)	3 Hepatitis B
3 Hepatitis B	3 Hepatitis B	2 MMR
1 MMR	2 MMR	2 Varicella
1 Varicella	2 Varicella	
1 - 4 Pneumococcal (Note: Dose # depends on age when vaccinated)	1 - 4 Pneumococcal (Note: not required after the age of 5 yrs. <u>or</u> if born before 7/1/15)	

Permanent enrollment in school is contingent upon completion of these required immunizations. Scholars without proof of immunizations with dates signed and stamped by a physician and/or clinic will be suspended from school 30 calendar days after school entrance. If you have questions, please contact the school nurse.

Medication

A *Medication Authorization Form* must be completed, signed by both a physician and parent, and then returned to the school nurse in order for any medication to be taken at school. Forms are available in the office. All medications must be in a pharmacy labeled bottle or original unopened container and will be kept in the health room. School staff members are not authorized to administer any type of medication, including over-the-counter medications such as Tylenol, cough drops, or cough syrup, except under the following condition: Over the counter or prescription medication (including cough drops, aspirin, etc...) that is taken on a routine basis, either daily or as needed, for such conditions as allergies, hyperactivity, or seizures, must have a form signed by both a physician and the parent.

Medication of any kind should never be sent to school in a lunch box or unmarked container. When the staff does not know about medication, we cannot take proper precautions to safeguard your scholar and other scholars.

Dress Code

Scholars are expected to dress in a manner that promotes learning, character development, and is reflective of the mission and vision of the school. All scholars should follow the Uniform Policy for River

Oaks Academy. The uniform consists of navy or khaki bottoms (skirts, skorts, pants, jumpers) for all scholars. PK-2 scholars will wear a yellow or light blue collared shirt and 3-5 scholars will wear red or navy collared shirts. Girls should wear navy or white socks. Leggings or tights may be worn under skirts or jumpers. Scholars should wear closed toe shoes/sneakers. Crocs and bubble shoes are not considered safe for the school building. PLEASE ensure that scholars are dressed appropriately daily. Special days where students can wear clothes other than uniform will be announced on the ConnectEd, as well as, through communication from teachers.

Thursday Folders

Thursday folders and information will be sent home with scholars each week. This folder will apprise you of your scholar's progress throughout the quarter. Please review these papers, sign the form to document your review, and send it back to school the following day. If there is a need for a conference, you may call your scholar's teacher and set up a time to come in to discuss concerns you may have. Mid-quarter reports will be sent home 4-1/2 weeks into each quarter, and report cards will be sent home at the end of each quarter. Parents are expected to come in for a conference at the end of the first quarter and as needed thereafter. Please help us help your scholar by keeping in touch and monitoring his/her work as we progress through the year.

Classroom Visits

Parental involvement is an integral part of a successful school program. We are excited and honored by your desire to be involved in your scholar's academic program. While we invite you to visit the school and remain aware of your child's progress, we ask that you not visit the teachers in the morning as scholars arrive or during the day to discuss your scholar's progress. ***Please call and schedule appointments for conferences.*** We understand at the beginning of the year helping our youngest scholars find their classroom, **but please note after the first three weeks, students will need to walk themselves to class.**

Character Education:

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools has adopted nine character traits, which we believe, should be an important part of every scholar's education. Each month we will showcase one of the traits and highlight the characteristics. At the end of the month we will recognize a Terrific Scholar from each of the classrooms for representing the characteristics. The nine traits and months that we recognize them are:

- **September = Respect:** Showing high regard for self, other people, and property
- **October = Responsibility:** Being accountable for your own behavior
- **November = Honesty:** Being truthful in words and actions
- **December = Caring:** Showing concern for the well-being of others
- **January = Justice and Fairness:** Demonstrating impartial, unbiased, and equitable treatment for all
- **February = Citizenship:** Being an informed, responsible, and caring participant in your community
- **March = Hope:** Believing you will be successful
- **April = Perseverance:** Staying with a task and not giving up
- **May = Courage:** Doing the right thing in the face of difficulty and following your conscience instead of the crowd

Positive Behavior Support and Schoolwide Expectations:

We will be following a Positive Discipline Model and school “Starbucks” to recognize positive behaviors and document areas of concern. Classrooms will utilize individual systems to address behaviors throughout the day.

We use a school wide acronym to guide our scholars for expectations in all settings. Our goal is to teach our scholars how to “Be a STAR.”

- S-** Safe
- T-** Trustworthy
- A-** Accountable
- R-** Respectful

Each week a STAR student from each classroom will be recognized. Please know that when a scholar has a behavioral concern, we need your assistance in turning it around to reflect the positive behaviors needed for academic and social success.

Every month, we hold a STAR Student Assembly to recognize our STAR Students and Terrific Scholars and celebrate the successes of our scholars. Each quarter students that have met the specified goals from our Student Culture committee, will have the opportunity to participate in a School Wide Behavior Incentive.

Discipline

Scholars are expected to behave in a manner that is conducive to the learning environment. Failure to do so results in loss of academic time for all scholars within that classroom. Please review the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook /Code of Conduct with your scholar so that he/she displays those character traits shown to reap success. When scholars fail to follow the set rules and procedures, there are consequences and staff will intervene to reteach and support students in learning the expected behavior.

Grade/Progress Reporting:

In Kindergarten-2nd grades, student progress will be communicated through agendas and progress reports. In 3rd-5th grades, student grades are posted and updated weekly online through Power School, which you can locate in the parent portal. This allows parents to check their scholar’s progress online at any time. Parent Portal access information will be sent home after the first month of school. Progress reports are sent home at mid-quarter and report cards are sent home at the end of each quarter in accordance with the CMS school calendar. Report Cards Standard report cards are issued four times during the school year. You are encouraged to attend our fall conferences to meet with your scholar’s teacher and discuss your child’s progress.

Grading Scale:

Scholars in grades K-2 will receive standards based report cards that reflect their growth towards mastering grade level standards. Standards scale legends will be provided on report cards. Scholars in grades 3-12 will receive numeric grades on their report cards that will be based upon the 10-point grading scale. Letter grade legends will be provided on report cards. Plus (+) and minus (-) signs will not be used.

Report Card Indicators in Grades K-2 are marked based on end of year standards. It is likely that students will not be marked at a Mastery level at the beginning of the year because all of the learning needed will not have been taught yet. Comments will be very important to understand the current levels of your scholar.

K-2 Score Indicators

D	Developing Student demonstrates basic level of understanding of standard with support. Intervention is in place to support the development in mastery of standard.
P	Progressing Student demonstrates progress toward developing mastery of standard. Student applies limited understanding in familiar situations.
M	Mastering Student demonstrates mastery of grade level standard multiple times and in multiple ways. Student applies understanding of standard in familiar and unfamiliar situations.
E	Exemplary Mastery Student demonstrates advanced mastery of grade level standard. Student seeks to deepen understandings, engage in higher order thinking skills, and apply thinking to new and uncommon situations.

Report Card 10 Point Scale for 3-5 Students

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F < 59-0

Late Work:

Late work and make-up work must be accepted by all teachers in accordance with the procedures established by the school. A student, who misses homework or other assignments or due dates because of absences, whether excused or unexcused, must be allowed to make up the work. Arrangements for completing the work should be made within five school days of the student's return to school. In accordance with CMS Board regulation, late homework and other assignments will be accepted, however, credit for late work will be awarded according to the following guidelines:

- If the student was present in class on the due date, the work may be given less credit
- If the student was not present in class on the due date because of an excused or code zero absence, full credit shall be given for the completed work
- If the student was not present in class on the due date because of an unexcused absence, the work may be given less credit.

Promotion Standards:

In accordance with CMS Regulation IKE-R, scholars in elementary grades must demonstrate mastery of grade level skills. Information from End-of-Grade tests and class performance will be used to make promotion and retention decisions. In addition, NC Read to Achieve law requires all third scholars to score at Level III or above on the North Carolina End-of-Grade (EOG) Reading tests in order to be promoted to the next grade level.

Homework:

Homework is used as a tool to reinforce and review previously taught subjects. Please make sure your scholar completes their homework. We use the following guidelines when assigning homework:

Grades K-1: 15-30 minutes per night

Grades 2-3: 30-40 minutes per night

Grades 4-5: 45-60 minutes per night

Quarterly Awards

We will recognize scholars for their academic achievement and positive character throughout the year during quarterly celebrations. 3rd-5th Grade scholars will have quarterly assemblies in the gym and our K-2 scholars will have their awards in the classrooms. All grades will have an end of year celebration in the multi-purpose room to celebrate their successes for the entire year.

MAP Testing, Dibels, EL Benchmark Assessments, and End of Grade Testing:

Students in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade will participate in various assessments three times a year to monitor progress. The Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) testing will be given to students in 2nd-5th grade in math and literacy. Kindergarten and 1st grade scholars will only take the MAP assessment for Math. All scholars will take the EL Benchmark Assessments (literacy) on a three time a year basis. Dibels testing is also used in grades K-3rd grade three times a year. These assessments along with classroom assessments will be used to identify students mastering grade level expectations and provide information on what skills students may need enrichment/remediation.

Finally students in Grades 3rd through 5th grade will take an End of Grade (EOG) assessment in both literacy and math and in Science for 5th grade only. This will identify if students are meeting Grade Level Proficiency standards (Level 3, 4, or 5) or College and Career readiness standards (Level 4 and 5).

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support- MTSS

The mission of River Oaks Academy's MTSS Team is to identify and implement strategies to enhance the learning and achievement of individual scholars. The team is composed of the following: teachers, school administrators, facilitators, and a School Counselor. Data is reviewed from MAP and EL Benchmarks along with other aspects of your child's school career (attendance, behavior, grades, etc.) to determine if we need to intervene to provide targeted support. If your scholar is experiencing difficulty in school, a referral may be requested through your scholar's teacher or the school counselor. This request will lead to the development of the *Intervention Plan for Student Success* through a team process of reviewing data, proposing strategies/interventions, and monitoring results. We follow the Standard Treatment Protocol, which gives an opportunity for academic and behavioral interventions to support our scholars.

504, IEP, and LEP Scholars

Scholars with a **504 plan**, Individualized Education Program (**IEP**) or who are identified as Limited English Proficient (**LEP**) may receive accommodations on assignments and assessments to allow them to engage

in on-grade level content as determined by their plan. Teachers will assess student work based on these accommodated assignments and assessments.

Field Trips

The school system requires parent permission for student attendance on field trips. It is the parents' and scholars' responsibility to ensure that permission slips are returned to teachers on time. No student will be allowed to attend a field trip without a signed permission slip. Parents who participate in field trips may not bring preschool age siblings or siblings from other classes. In order to account for all scholars, please do not plan to take your scholar home from the field trip site. Scholars must return to school to be signed out for early dismissal. Parents who accompany scholars on field trips must have approved CMS volunteer status. Scholars who lose their field trip privilege due to misconduct or absence may not be reimbursed for field trip fees.

Online Payments

At ROA, we will only collect money for field trips in school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Note that this is cash only, no personal checks are allowed. Our preferred method of payment is the online school payments. Please see below for more information.

Online School Payments are available 24/7 and you will be able to use your debit or credit card.

Follow these easy steps to create an account for your child(ren) that will follow them in CMS through High School:

1. Obtain your child's student identification number by contacting your teacher or call the school.
2. Visit: schools.cms.k12.nc.us/riveroaksES
3. Click the "Online School Payments" (found on the left side of the screen)
4. Look for your school and choose a transaction.

Birthday Parties

Just a reminder that we do not celebrate with birthday parties at school. Also, any food that is brought in must be purchased from a store and wrapped in its original wrapping. Health regulations prohibit us from giving students any food that is not commercially prepared. This is to keep all students safe from food allergies, etc. Food can not be enjoyed in the classroom until the last 30 minutes of the day.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices/Toys

Cell phones/electronic devices/toys and like items are not permitted in class. If a student has a cell phone, the phone should be turned off and secured in your scholar's backpack while at school. If a student's phone rings or is seen by an adult, it will be taken and turned in to the main office. Items that are not allowed in school serve as student distractions and will be confiscated by the teacher. Parents should make arrangements to pick up their scholar's belongings within 5 school days. After June 30th, all confiscated items from the prior school year will be discarded

Parent Engagement and Curriculum Nights

As a team, we all can work together to provide support for our scholars. Our school works to provide many opportunities throughout the year for parents and guardians to engage in opportunities to learn about the programs and resources that we are utilizing with our students, how you can support your scholars at home, and see the work that our scholars have completed. These events include, but are not limited to our Open House, Title I Family night, 3 Curriculum Nights, and several Arts Events to showcase our scholar’s special talents. In conjunction with several of these events, we will have family engagement opportunities to build our school community. Please also consider being part of one or both of the two groups that work together with the school to promote the overall performance of our school.

School Improvement Team (SIT)

The School Improvement Team assists in the evaluation and assessment of River Oaks Academy educational programs and their effects on student achievement. The SIT analyzes the School Improvement Plan (SIP) and makes adjustments as needed. The SIT also addresses issues/concerns that arise throughout the school year. The team consists of parent and staff representatives who meet monthly to provide support and guidance for River Oaks. The SIT studies the school’s programs and policies with an emphasis on identifying strengths, weaknesses, and future needs. This information is used to help develop both long and short-term School Improvement Plans. The general public is invited to all meetings which will be held monthly. Last year, parents were elected to the SIT in April and can serve for 2 years in this capacity.

PTA

Many school functions only happen because parents volunteer their time. A small commitment of your time will make a world of difference to our school and the scholars. The PTA is responsible for organizing school functions, and they only happen because of volunteers (**you do not need to be a PTA member to volunteer**). Look for PTA sponsored activities in the River Oaks monthly newsletter and special notices that are sent home. Please note that all volunteers must be registered thru the CMS website. For more information, please contact the school office.

Thank you for helping us to abide by the rules by following the guidelines that are in place. Please sign below to indicate that you have read through the handbook. You can also reference this throughout the year as needed.

** I have read and reviewed the information in the ROA handbook. I understand my responsibilities as a parent and partner in the education of my scholar. I/We will work with the school to ensure that my scholar is present each day, prepared to do his/her best, and engaged in the learning process in order to excel socially, behaviorally and most importantly, academically. Parent

Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Teacher _____ Grade _____

