



Dear Rama Road Elementary Families,

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year! We are thrilled to welcome students and staff back to school as the Rama Road Raptors. Shiny and new just like our school year, our brand, new mascot is just waiting to be named. All students will have the chance to get to know our mascot and participate in a Mascot Naming Contest within the first few weeks of school. So, put on your thinking caps and let's name the Raptor!

It is now time to look forward to a wonderful new school year as we "Adventure to Excellence: Sailing Toward Success"! Our incredible staff of educators have already been in school to prepare classrooms for the new school year. We are grateful to our amazing custodial staff as they worked all summer getting our school in pristine shape. Our secretaries, Mrs. Garcia & Mrs. Sturdahl, are working hard to ensure a smooth start for staff, students, and families.

Rama Road Elementary is such a special place to learn and grow. We are proud of our beautiful, community school and have high expectations for each child. Our students are kind, compassionate, and eager to learn. Together with our dedicated staff, we strive to make connections with students to help them feel valued, accepted, and safe. Our Rama Road motto of "Powerful Teaching, Watch Us Shine" will continue to guide our mission to provide a rigorous and inclusive school environment. Our ultimate goal is to encourage active student engagement daily to foster a lifetime love for learning.

Partnering with families is crucial to promote a healthy transition to school both socially and emotionally. We recognize that students may be feeling anxious with the start of a new school year, and we will continue to place a strong emphasis on social emotional learning of the whole child while focusing on building positive classroom communities. We encourage families to stay connected and informed by following our Rama Road Facebook page, the CMS Rama Road webpage, and announcements sent through Parent Square. A great start for your family will be to go into Parent Square and register your account so you will have two-way communication access between home and school. Plan now to check your PowerSchool contact information once a quarter to keep it updated in the event of an emergency.

Facebook: DiscoverRamaRoadES

Webpage: <https://www.cmsk12.org/ramaroadES>

Attendance

Did you know that 80% of success is just showing up? Schoolwide attendance will be a top priority for all Rama Road Families this year. We are asking every family to commit to a 95% attendance rate for their child(ren). That means that your child cannot miss more than 1 day of school a month to achieve this goal. Our Student Support team is ready and eager to share schoolwide and classroom incentives that are sure to get students excited about not missing a day. The more students attend, the better their academic outcomes!

Clubs

We have a lot to look forward to this school year. There will be several extracurricular opportunities in which students can engage, such as: Girl Scouts, Chess, Digi Bridge, Battle of the Books, soccer, guitar ensemble, and Girls on the Run. Check out the Family Engagement Policy on our webpage that provides information on the numerous ways you and your family can get involved in our school. You can also find a yearlong calendar of events on our school webpage. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Health

We are excited to share the wonderful news that Rama Road Elementary was 1 of 25 schools chosen to have an Atrium Virtual Health Clinic this school year. There will be more information to come on this exciting opportunity that is will alleviate stress for families and ensure better attendance of all students and staff while we continue to build a healthy environment for learning at our school.

Safety

Parents and Guardians should plan to bring an ID to sign-in for every on-campus event and visit this school year, including Open House. We have staggered Open House times to minimize crowding of hallways and classrooms. Please see the schedule below to plan your arrival time.

Open House & Meet the Teacher, Thursday, August 24th

This Open House & Ice Cream Social will be staggered by last name.

Last name A-M – please attend from 3:30 – 4:30

Last name N-Z – please attend from 4:30 – 5:30

Uniforms

Rama Road is a uniform school. All students are expected to be in uniform every day, starting the first day of school. Uniforms consist of a plain collared shirt (no words or emblems) in white, light blue or navy with khaki or navy bottoms (shorts or pants). Girls are permitted to wear khaki or navy-blue skirts or jumpers. All students must wear closed toe shoes to school with white or navy-blue socks.

House System at Rama Road

Every Rama Road student is assigned with their class to one of four houses (Tharpe - yellow, Latimer - red, Ride - green or Galileo – navy blue). Classes in houses focus each month on building meaningful connections between students and classes, learning character traits and celebrating academic and personal successes with one another. Students and classes earn points throughout the year for their efforts in competition for a House Championship Cup at the end of the year. ***As members of each House, students are expected to have a color house T-shirt to wear for monthly assembly days. House t-shirts cost \$8 (online school payments only – please see the enclosed direction form). These will be delivered to students in late September.***

As Principal of Rama Road Elementary, it is an honor to be a part of a community where students, teachers, and parents care for each other and strive to build meaningful relationships that support academic and social-emotional growth. Feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns by calling 980-343-6730 or email at patriciam.denny@cms.k12.nc.us. I look forward to working with you and supporting your child in meeting their academic goals. It is going to be an awesome year!

Rama Proud,



Patricia M. Denny
Principal