

**WE
ARE**



B R

The graphic features the word 'WEBR' in a bold, sans-serif font. The letters 'W', 'E', 'A', and 'R' are solid black. The letter 'B' is filled with a photograph of a student wearing a colorful, patterned shirt. The letter 'R' is filled with a photograph of a student with long blonde hair, smiling, and holding a green object. The entire graphic is set against a white rectangular background, which is itself centered on a larger, dark gray, irregularly shaped background.

**WELCOME TO THE
PIRATE NATION!**

Class of

2  **29**

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Braden River High School is to empower students to be strong, responsible leaders who value personal integrity, academic excellence, and civic involvement.



**QUESTIONS ARE NOT ONLY
APPRECIATED...**

THEY ARE EXPECTED!!!



PROJECTED ENROLLMENT

- Approximately 1700+ students.
- Roughly 400 of these students will be members of the freshmen class.

**WHAT DO I NEED
TO ACCOMPLISH
IN THE NEXT
FOUR YEARS?**

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- ☑ Earn 24 credits as follows:
 - ☑ 4 English
 - ☑ 4 Math (Including Algebra 1 and Geometry)
 - ☑ 3 Science (Including Biology)
 - ☑ 3 Social Studies (World History, US History, US Government and Economics)
 - ☑ 1 HOPE (Health and PE)
 - ☑ 1 Fine Art/Practical Art or Career & Technical Education Credit
 - ☑ 0.5 Financial Literacy Credit
 - ☑ 7.5 Electives Credits
- ☑ Earn an unweighted cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher
- ☑ Pass the required state assessments (B.E.S.T. Algebra 1 EOC & Grade 10 FAST Reading Assessment)



HOPE WAIVERS

A student can waive the HOPE requirement in one of two ways:

1. Participate in two seasons of an interscholastic sport at the Junior Varsity or Varsity level.

OR

2. Complete two years of JROTC. This will waive the full credit in HOPE and the full credit in Fine Arts.

* Once a student meets the requirements for a HOPE waiver, he or she will need to request a waiver form from his/her school counselor.



FINE ARTS REQUIREMENT

- All students must earn a Fine Arts/Practical Arts or Career Technical Education credit for graduation.
- Courses that satisfy the Fine Art requirement at BRHS:
 - Accounting
 - AP Art History
 - Band
 - Chorus
 - Commercial Art
 - Digital Information Technology
 - Game Design
 - Journalism
 - Marketing
 - TV Production
 - Vet Assisting



STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENTS

Graduation Requirements

Students must earn a Level 3 or higher to be eligible for a standard high school diploma:

- Grade 10 FAST Reading Assessment
- B.E.S.T. Algebra 1 EOC

Note: The Algebra EOC results also count for 30% of the final grade of the course.

End of Course Exams

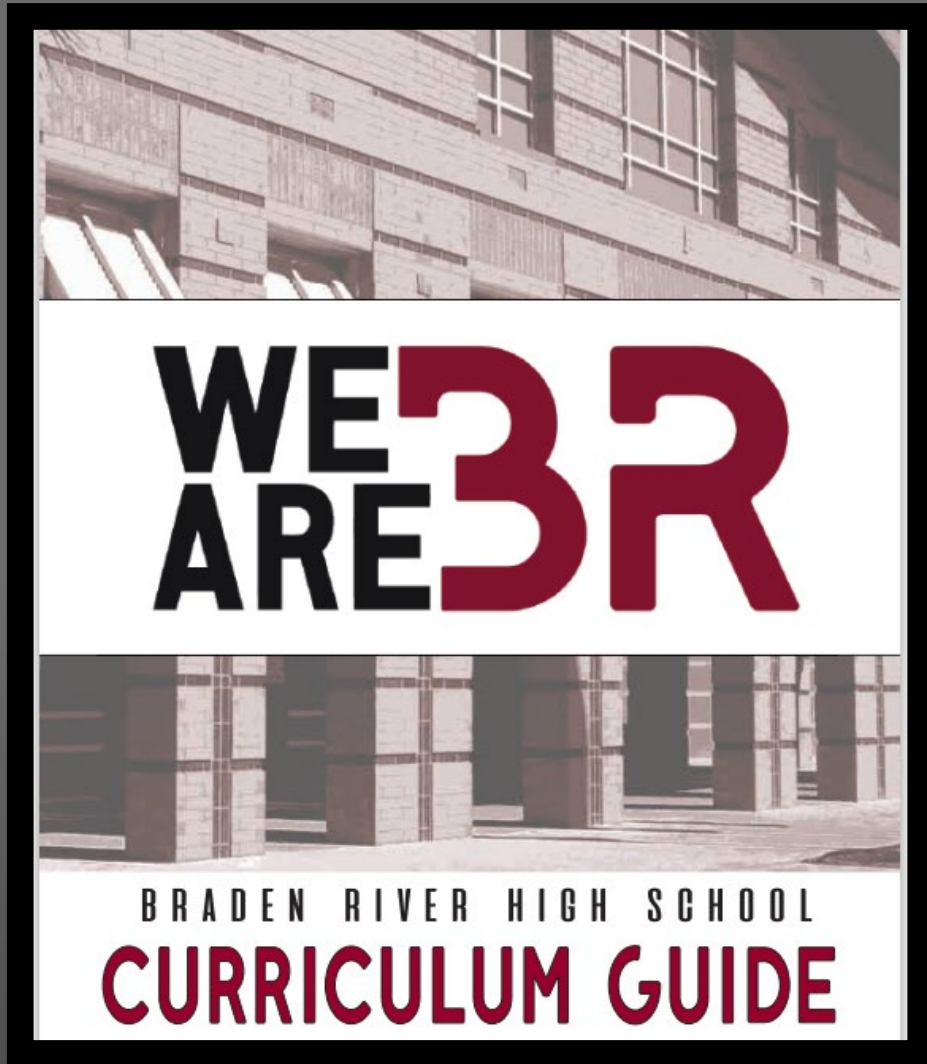
The results are calculated as 30% of the final grade of the course in the following subject areas, but do not affect graduation status:

- Biology
- Geometry
- US History

WHAT MAKES BRADEN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL SPECIAL?

**HOW DO I BEGIN
MY HIGH
SCHOOL
JOURNEY?**


COURSE REQUEST GUIDELINES



- Carefully review the BRHS course descriptions in the curriculum guide found on the Braden River website.
- Each of your academic teachers (English, Math, Science, and Social Studies) will recommend what 9th grade course you should take.
- Rank your top eight (8) elective choices!
- Parents/Guardians and students must sign the Course Request Form.

REQUEST FORMS

- Follow the QR Code link on the form to access the full BRHS Curriculum Guide online.
- Complete the top portion of the form. PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY IN BLUE OR BLACK INK!
- When completing the course request form, use ink only and press down firmly to ensure the second copy is readable.
- Return your completed request form to your middle school counselor by the due date provided by your middle school.



Braden River High School
9th Grade Request
2025-2026

Student Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Alternate Phone: _____

Middle School: _____

←

1. ACADEMIC CLASSES - Teachers must approve and sign-off one class from each section. Teacher signature required.

English	Math	Science	Social Studies
English 1 _____ 1001310	Algebra 1A _____ 1200370	Ag Foundation _____ 8106810	AP Human Geo _____ 2103400
Pre-AP English 1 _____ 1001415	Algebra 1 _____ 1200310	Environmental Sci _____ 2001340	World Cul Geo / _____ 2103300
Pre-AP English 2 _____ 1001416	Geometry _____ 1206310	Biology Hon _____ 2000320	Pers Fin Literacy _____ 2102371
ESOL English 1 _____ 1002300	Geometry Hon _____ 1206320		
Eng Lang. Dev. _____ 1002380	Algebra 2 _____ 1200330		
	Alg 2 Hon _____ 1200340		

2. PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Please select one of the choices below.

_____ HOPE - In the classroom _____ HOPE - Online through FLVS _____ HOPE - Waiver JROTC or sports

3. Career Pathways - Please select one of the following Career Pathways.

_____ Arts & Communications _____ Business & International Studies _____ Engineering Design & Leadership _____ Science Technology & Health

**4. ELECTIVES - Select 8 electives, rank by priority (1-8).
Courses with * must have teacher approval or a completed application.**

Arts & Communications	Business & International Studies	Engineering Design & Leadership	Science Technology & Health
Comm Art 1 _____ 8718010	Digital Info Tech _____ 8207310	AP Comp Sci Prin* _____ 0200335	Ag Found _____ 8106810
TV Video Prod 1 _____ 8201510	Accounting 1 _____ 8203310	AVID* _____ 1700390	Hope _____ 1506320
Yearbook 1* _____ 1006331	Game Design _____ 8208120	App Engin Tech 1 _____ 8401110	
Music Theory _____ 1300300	Marketing _____ 8827110	Dig. Photo 1 _____ 8201310	
AUD Concert Band* _____ 1302300	Spanish 1* _____ 0708340	Found. Robotics 1* _____ 9410110	
AUD Jazz Band* _____ 1302500	Spanish 2* _____ 0708350	JROTC 1 _____ 1801300	
Guitar _____ 1301320	Spanish 3 Hon* _____ 0708360		
Percus. Tech* _____ 1302420			
Color Guard* _____ 1305300			
Women's Glee _____ 130360G			
Mens Choir _____ 1303360			
AUD Choir* _____ 1303300			
Beg. Dance Tech _____ 0300310B			
Beg. Theatre _____ 0400310B			
AUD Orchestra* _____ 1302360			

I have carefully chosen my courses based on graduation, college entrance, and Bright Futures requirements (see Curriculum Guide).

I have confirmed I meet the prerequisites for the courses I have chosen.


I understand once school begins my schedule will not be changed.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date



Scan for curriculum guide and registration info

AUD = Audition Only

CHOOSING ELECTIVES

- Rank your elective choices from 1-8.
- Your # 2-8 choices should also be clearly ranked and can be any elective course in any academy.
- Courses with an asterisk (*) require teacher approval. These courses typically have a prerequisite or require an application.



WHAT IS A PREREQUISITE?

If a course has a prerequisite, that means you must complete a specific course or earn a minimum grade in previous coursework prior to being permitted to enroll in the class.

Prerequisites for all BRHS courses are listed with the course description in the Curriculum Guide.

- For example, to enroll in a Horticulture or Vet Assisting course, you must first complete the Agriscience Foundations course.



ACCELERATION OPTIONS

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

- AP courses are college-level courses taught at the high school culminating in a national AP exam taken in May.
- Students interested in AP courses must have teacher approval.
- AP summer assignments must be completed and submitted on the first day of school. Check school website for summer assignments.
- Required to take the end of year AP Exam.
- Freshmen are permitted to take AP Human Geography & AP Computer Science Principles.
- 2020-2021: AP Capstone School:
<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-capstone>

DUAL ENROLLMENT

- Dual enrollment is a program which allows eligible students to enroll in State College of Florida (SCF) courses or University of South Florida (USF) courses.
- Credits earned are included in both the high school and college GPA.
- Grades earned in dual enrollment courses become a permanent record on the college transcript.
- DE courses are typically completed in grades 10 -12.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Requests for schedule changes will ONLY be considered for the following reasons:

- The student has already earned credit for the course.
- The student has failed to meet the prerequisite for the course.
- The student is scheduled for too many or not enough courses.
- If there was a clerical error.

Note – If the school administration receives a district directive regarding course progression, a schedule change may be granted.

COURSE FAILURE POLICY

- If a student has been unsuccessful in a course, he or she will not be scheduled back into that course at BRHS.
- Grade forgiveness is available only for earning a C, D, or F in middle school or a D or F in high school.
- Students must register through Florida Virtual School to recover a credit (www.flvs.net).
- Students need to obtain approval from their school counselor before they can begin the online course.
- If the student receives a C or higher on FLVS, the original failing grade will not be calculated into the student's GPA but will still appear on the transcript.

**HOW DO I PLAN
FOR MY
FUTURE?**

STATE UNIVERSITIES OF FLORIDA

Admission into Florida's public universities is competitive.

Minimum Admissions Requirements:

- ✓ Standard High School Diploma and ACT/SAT Scores
- ✓ 16 credits in college preparatory courses:
 - ✓ 4 English Credits
 - ✓ 4 Math Credits (Algebra 2 or higher level)
 - ✓ 3 Credits Science (2 with substantial labs)
 - ✓ 3 Credits Social Studies
 - ✓ 2 Credits Foreign Language
 - ✓ 2 Credits Academic Electives



Who to Contact

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Matt Nesser
nesserm@manateeschools.net

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lauren Schrier-Simmons
schrier-simmondsl@manateeschools.net

ACTIVITIES

Susan Faller, Activities Director
fallers@manateeschools.net

Bands (Marching, Concert, & Jazz):

Cliff Dawson
dawson4c@manateeschools.net

Baseball: Gregory Creek

creekg@manateeschools.net

Basketball: James Woolam (Girls)

woolamj@manateeschools.net

Dwight Gilmer (Boys)

gilmerd@manateeschools.net

Cheerleading: Amy Diss

DissA@manateeschools.net

Chorus: Steven Armstrong

armstrongs2@manateeschools.net

Cross Country: Dwight Gilmer

gilmerd@manateeschools.net

Dance: Marilyn Kelly

kelly2m@manateeschools.net

Flag Football: Stacia King

kings2@manateeschools.net

Football: Jason Grain

grainj@manateeschools.net

Golf: James Straub (Girls) / Paul Krueger (Boys)

straubj@manateeschools.net

kruegerp@manateeschools.net

Orchestra: Katherine Ng

ngk@manateeschools.net

Soccer: Don Engelberger (Girls)

engelbergd@manateeschools.net

Braden Chandler (Boys)

Email@manateeschools.net

Softball: Keith Jans

jansk@manateeschools.net

Swimming & Dive: Paul Sochin

sochinp@manateeschools.net

Tennis: Sharon Itts (Girls) / James Straub (Boys)

ittss@manateeschools.net

straubj@manateeschools.net

Track: Stefanie Minihan

Email@manateeschools.net

Volleyball: Matthew McElhiney

mcelhineym@manateeschools.net

Weightlifting: Jordan Borges

borgesj@manateeschools.net

Wrestling: Cezar Sharbono

sharbonoc@manateeschools.net

CHECK OUR WEBSITE &
SOCIAL MEDIA SITES
FOR THE MOST UP-TO-
DATE INFORMATION ON
TRYOUTS, AUDITIONS &
SUMMER EVENTS

**WE
ARE 3R**



@piratenationhs



@BRHSPirateNation



manateeschools.net/bradenriver



captainscargo.org



BR CLUBS

SGA	American Red Cross Club	HOSA	The Spyglass News	AAC
Key Club	International Thespians	SWAT	Junior Advisory Board	FBLA
Mu Alpha Theta	Freshman Advisory Board	FFA	Environmental Club	FCA
Unidos Now	Innovators Club	Art Club	Sophomore Advisory Board	
JROTC	Senior Advisory Board	TSA	Sports Medicine Club	

TSA broke the state record in 2019 for # of national qualifiers.

BRHS FFA consistently named one of 'Florida's Finest Chapters'.

Follow us



@BrhssectionE

@TheSpyglassNews

14 SPORTS

FOOTBALL

GOLF

VOLLEYBALL

SOCCER

BASKETBALL

TRACK

WRESTLING

BASEBALL

WEIGHTLIFTING

TENNIS

CROSSCOUNTRY

SOFTBALL

FLAGFOOTBALL

CHEERLEADING

Follow us



@BR_PirateFB

@brhs_pirateball

@BRpiratesoccer

@brhs_xctf



@brhsvball

40 CHAMPIONSHIPS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: When will the counselors come to my middle school?

A: Counselors are visiting several middle schools during the last week in February and the first week of March. Below are the dates for each school:

Feb. 20 – Nolan MS

Feb.28 - Braden River Middle

Feb. 25 – Haile MS

Feb. 26 - Johnson K-8


Feb. 28 – Rowlett Middle Academy

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What will my student receive when the counselors visit their middle school?

A: Students will receive the Braden River High School Freshman Guide and a 9th Grade Course Request sheet.

WELCOME TO THE RIVER



FRESHMAN GUIDE

BRADEN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

WE ARE 3R

9th Grade Request
2025-2026

Braden River High School

Student Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Alternate Phone: _____

Middle School: _____

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☐ Science Technology & Health

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Color Guard* _____ 1305300			
Women's Glee _____ 1303600			
Mens Choir _____ 1303360			
AUD Choir* _____ 1303300			
Beg. Dance Tech _____ 03003108			
Beg. Theatre _____ 04003108			
AUD Orchestra* _____ 1302360			

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I understand once school begins my schedule will not be changed.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

AUD = Audition Only


Scan for
curriculum guide and
registration info

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Q: I don't attend one of your feeder middle schools, how do I register for courses?

A: Stop by the BRHS Front Office or visit the BRHS website to obtain the registration forms.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Can I pick up my schedule before school starts?

A: No, official schedules will not be given out prior to the first day of school.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Q: Can I change a class at the end of first semester?

A: No, your schedule will remain the same for the entire school year.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What if there is an error on my schedule?

A: Students will complete an online form during the first week of school to alert the school counselors and administrators that there may be an error on the schedule.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Can I take a foreign language as a 9th grader?

A: Yes, a 9th grade student can request a foreign language course if he/she has approval from a current English teacher. Depending on seat availability, the course may not be available until 10th grade.

Note: If you successfully complete a foreign language credit(s) in middle school and you are approved for the next level, this elective should appear on your schedule.



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How many community service hours do I need for graduation?

A: Although hours may be required for scholarships or college admissions, there is no community service requirement for graduation.

Note: Students may complete hours during the summer after 8th grade. Forms are available on the BRHS website.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Q: Where can I get cool Pirate Gear before the start of the school year?

A: Check out the Captain's Cargo website to get the latest T-Shirts, Hoodies, Hats, and more!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

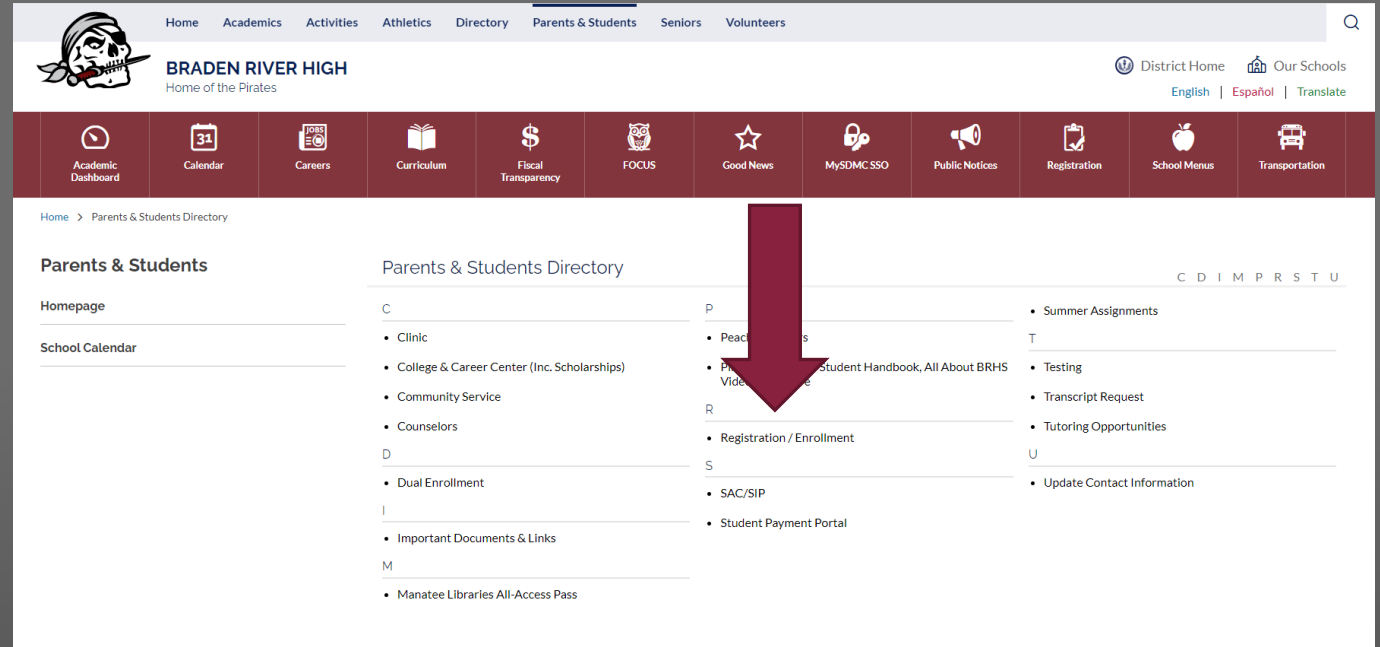
Q: I have heard as a student you can not walk on the grass. Is this true?

A: Yes, it is true. Walking on the grass is not permitted.



WHERE CAN REGISTRATION MATERIALS BE FOUND?

- Visit the Braden River High School Website
- Click on the Parents & Students Link
- Select Registration & Enrollment
- Resources include the Curriculum Guide, Course Request Forms, and Applications for Specialized Courses



The screenshot displays the Braden River High School website. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Academics, Activities, Athletics, Directory, Parents & Students (highlighted with a red arrow), Seniors, and Volunteers. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with icons for Academic Dashboard, Calendar, Careers, Curriculum, Fiscal Transparency, FOCUS, Good News, MySDMC.SSO, Public Notices, Registration, School Menu, and Transportation. The main content area is titled "Parents & Students" and "Parents & Students Directory". It features a sidebar with links to Homepage and School Calendar. The main directory is organized by letter (C, D, I, M, P, R, S, T, U) and lists various resources such as Clinic, College & Career Center, Community Service, Counselors, Dual Enrollment, Important Documents & Links, Manatee Libraries All-Access Pass, Peace, Student Handbook, All About BRHS, Registration / Enrollment, SAC/SIP, Student Payment Portal, Summer Assignments, Testing, Transcript Request, Tutoring Opportunities, and Update Contact Information. A red arrow points to the "Registration / Enrollment" link under the letter 'R'.

BRADEN RIVER RUSH STUDENT ORIENTATION



- More detailed information will be discussed at our orientation in August 2025.
- Students will have the opportunity to obtain their schedules and picture IDs in the Media Center.
- Check the school's website for updated information!

RESOURCES

BRHS Website:

<https://www.manateeschools.net/bradenriver>

Florida DOE Graduation Requirements:

<https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7764/urlt/aa-flyer-2324thereafter.pdf>

Florida Virtual School:

www.flvs.net

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship:

www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/



ON-LINE SCHOOLING OPTIONS

- Manatee Virtual School – Doug Gordan,
gordand@manateeschools.net, 941-751-6550 ext. 43393
- FLVS (Florida Virtual School) - Celeste [Sanchez-
csanchez@flvs.net](mailto:csanchez@flvs.net), 407-752-0873
- Graduation Alliance- Dr. Pace Edwards,
edward2p@manateeschools.net, 941-751-6550 ext. 43038

CONTACTS

Administrators

- Wendell Butler, Principal
- Rebecca Austerman,
Assistant Principal
- Laura Gonzales, Assistant
Principal
- Matt Whelden, Assistant
Principal
- Lauren Schrier-Simmons
College/Career Advisor

School Counselors:

Ashlee Kelly

Kirsten Lawlor

Julie Lengacher-Taylor

Kevin Swann

LET THE COUNTDOWN BEGIN . . .

Approximately
171 more days
until the First Day
of 9th Grade!

