

Ridge Spring – Monetta High School

“The Best Little High School in South Carolina”

Home of the Fighting Trojans

Office	685-2100
Principal	685-2105
Assistant Principal	685-2104
Registrar	685-2106
School Nurse	685-2100
Attendance	685-2102
Transportation Office	685-2103
Resource Officer	685-2121
School Counselor	685-2100
FAX	685-2108

WEBSITE:

Aiken County School District

<http://www.aiken.k12.sc.us>

Ridge Spring-Monetta High School

<http://www.aiken.k12.sc.us/schools/RsmHS/site/index.html>

Parents of students at RS-M High may receive a login and password for Power School. With a picture ID you may obtain this information from the front office. This system will allow you access to your child's grades and attendance record. For more information, go to the Aiken County School District website at www.aiken.k12.sc.us and click on the Power School Parent Portal link. Then click on the Parent Portal Login. Enter your confidential ID and password provided to you from the office.

ALMA MATER

On the ridge of Carolina, lies the school we love.
This the school we'll always cherish—her colors blue and gold.
All hail the Alma Mater! Thy glory we will sing.
Raise the chorus, speed it onward, let her praises ring.

This fine ole school called RS-M, with memories so dear.
Will always mean the world to us, tho' we are far or near.
Now let us all, in tribute, raise our school in majesty;
Sing our love to RS-M—all hail, all hail to thee!

Mission Statement

Ridge Spring-Monetta High School will consistently provide avenues for our students to become lifelong learners and productive members of the community.

Vision

Ridge Spring-Monetta High School is the center of the community.

*We develop lifelong learners who are responsible and productive members of the community.

*Our students develop life skills that facilitate their long term success beyond the classroom.

*We promote social and cultural awareness and understanding, so that our students, staff and faculty understand and accept diversity, in the school and within the community.

*Our students are technologically competent and responsible.

*In collaboration with our students and parents, we focus on reading and comprehension, writing clarity, critical thinking skills and independence of thought.

*We remain connected to the community through all available means.

Regular Bell Schedule

Class Period	Begins	Tardy	Ends
1 st period	07:45	07:50	08:45
2 nd period	08:45	08:49	09:44
3 rd period	09:44	09:48	10:43
4 th period	10:43	10:47	11:42
5 th period	11:42	11:46	12:41
Lunch	12:41		01:11
6 th period	01:11	01:16	02:11
7 th period	02:11	02:15	03:10

Advisory Schedule

Class Period	Begins	Tardy	Ends
1 st period	07:45	07:50	08:40
2 nd period	08:40	08:44	09:34
3 rd period	09:34	09:38	10:28
Advisor/Homeroom	10:28	10:32	11:03
4 th period	11:03	11:07	11:57
Lunch	11:57		12:27
5 th period	12:27	12:32	01:22
6 th period	01:22	01:26	02:16
7 th period	02:16	02:20	03:10

Early Release Schedule

Class Period	Begins	Tardy	Ends
1 st period	07:45	07:50	08:30
2 nd period	08:30	08:35	09:10
3 rd period	09:10	09:15	09:50
4 th period	09:50	09:55	10:30
5 th period	10:30	10:35	11:10
Lunch	11:10		11:35
6 th period	11:35	11:40	12:15
7 th period	12:15	12:20	01:00

Club Schedule

Class Period	Begins	Tardy	Ends
1 st period	07:45	07:50	08:40
2 nd period	08:30	08:45	09:30
3 rd period	09:30	09:35	10:20
4 th period	10:20	10:25	11:10
5 th period	11:10	11:15	12:00
Lunch	12:00		12:25
6 th period	12:25	12:30	01:15
7 th period	01:15	01:20	02:10
Club	02:10	02:15	03:10

Dismissal to events will be announced by grades 12th, 11th, 10th, then 9th using the school wide PA system. Students must sit with their teachers. Attendance will be taken in gym. Students are to be polite and courteous to guests and/or presenters conducting the assembly. On club schedule day, a student not attending a club activity will go to the cafeteria.

The bell schedule may be adjusted on short notice, as situations require.

State High School Diploma Program
24 Units Required

English	4 units
Mathematics	4 units
Sciences	3 units
U.S. History	1 unit
Economics (1/2), Government (1/2)	1 unit
Social Studies Elective	1 unit
Physical Education	1 unit
Computer Applications/Keyboarding	1 unit
Foreign Language or CATE	1 unit
Electives	7 units

Students who have completed the required credits but have NOT passed the South Carolina Exit Examination will receive a certificate of attendance. Students who have been enrolled in special programs and are not following the diploma track will receive a certificate after twelve years of school if they have met the state attendance regulation in each class (170 days in a yearly course, 85 days in a semester course).

Exit Examination (HSAP)

All students will be required to earn a minimum score on all sub-tests of the South Carolina Exit Examination to obtain a state high school diploma. The sub-tests, which are based on the State Basic Skills Objectives, are in reading, writing, and mathematics.

Students will have as many as four chances to pass all portions of the test – once in the 10th grade, once during the 11th grade, and twice during the 12th grade. Any student who scores below standard on any portions of the Exit Examination **MUST** be involved in enrichment activities. **These students will be enrolled in the academic assistance program.**

Participation in Graduation Exercises

Certain conditions must be met in order to participate in graduation exercises:

1. To receive a diploma, one must have attended high school for four regular school years and have earned 24 units and met all the requirements of the South Carolina State Department of Education including passing the Exit Exam.
2. To receive a high school certificate, one must have earned 24 units.
3. A student's poor behavior can result in denial of the right to participate in the graduation exercises.
4. Students must pay all school fees and Jostens costs before their last day of attendance.
5. Students must participate in the graduation dress rehearsal.

Ridge Spring – Monetta High Student Code of Conduct

In addition to the Code of Student Conduct established by the Aiken County Public School Board, staff and students are expected to exercise the highest standard of respect, manners and courtesy, sportsmanship, and self discipline, all of which minimize the need for external rules and controls. The following are expectations of students while under the jurisdiction of RS-M High:

1. Punctuality to school and classes.
2. Eating and drinking is permitted only in the cafeteria unless otherwise approved by the administration.
3. Radio, tape decks, walkmans, CDs or any recording/playing/signaling devices are not allowed to be played on school buses or during school hours. These items shall be confiscated and returned at the appropriate time to parent/guardians.
4. Beepers, portable electronic signaling devices, cameras, cell phones, and laser pointers may not be worn, used, or visible during the school day.
5. Students must have agenda passes when they leave classes in session.
6. Students must wear school ID badges and they must be worn at all times.
7. Students should dress appropriately and adhere to the following dress code:

- A. No headwear or sunglasses (unless prescribed by a physician) may be worn in the building unless permitted by administration
 - B. Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. **No bedroom slippers.**
 - C. Clothing with advertisements regarding any activity, language, or product forbidden by the Code of Student Conduct, may not be worn at school or any school-sponsored activity.
 - D. Tank shirts, see-through clothing, and clothing which exposes parts of the torso are not permitted. (**No sagging pants!**) Blouses/tops must have 3-inch straps and cover up the armpits.
 - E. All garments must be no shorter than three (3) inches above the top of the kneecap.
 - F. Students should develop habits of dress which will prepare them for future contacts with the academic and business world.
 - G. Clothing considered disruptive to the instructional program may not be worn at school. Administration reserves the authority to determine what is inappropriate.
8. Students may not loiter in the following areas:
- A. Parking areas during any time from the time they arrive at school until they are officially dismissed from school.
 - B. Unsupervised and/or unassigned areas.
 - C. Faculty restrooms or lounges.
 - D. Restrooms.
9. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a clean school by discarding litter into appropriate receptacles, by cleaning their eating areas in the lunchroom and/or picnic area, and by depositing trays and utensils in the proper receptacles.
10. Students should behave appropriately and respectfully in class and during assembly programs. Failure to do so will result in punishment.

11. Students should be responsible for materials and/or funds for which they are accountable during an approved school-sponsored fundraising activity.
12. Standards of behavior which are not addressed in the Code of Student Conduct or the list above, may be addressed by school personnel as situations warrant. Where possible, advance notice will be given.
13. Teachers may make specific rules for their classes and/or rooms. Among the more common class rules which students would be expected to follow are the following:
 - A. Be prepared with all needed materials for class.
 - B. Be on time for class.
 - C. Show respect for all other persons in your class.
 - D. Do not eat in class unless approved by administration.
 - E. Help keep the classroom clean by discarding litter into the trash can.
 - F. Use any equipment, furniture, and supplies appropriately and safely.

Discipline Plan

This outline is developed to complement the discipline rules and consequences established by the Aiken County School District. The plan does establish certain parameters in order to administer punishment fairly and consistently. However it will not encompass all concerns or events which may occur. It does give a guide to follow. Punishment may change after parental conference and/or other circumstances are reviewed by the administration. We feel parental and student cooperation is vital to the success of any student, and variance in discipline can be allowed.

Consequences:

1. Verbal warning.
2. Teacher detention for 15 minutes and phone call home.
3. If a student does not show up for teacher detention, He/she will be expected to serve three lunch detentions.
4. Call parents with a school discipline slip.

A student's punishment is cumulative. **The more offenses, the more severe the punishment. A student may not receive more than 3 assigned detentions by the administration.** (Exception: Tardy policy

and Badge policy) **A student may not receive more than three suspensions, as this would lead to a recommendation for expulsion.**

<u>Offenses:</u>	<u>Consequences:</u>
Cutting Class	1. 1 Day of ISS 2. 3 Days of ISS
Walking out of class	1. 3 hrs. detention/apology 2. suspension
Incorrigible behavior in class	1. 1 hr. detention/apology 2. 3 hrs. detention 3. suspension
Refusal to obey a reasonable request	1. 1hr. detention/apology 2. 3 hrs. detention 3. suspension/parent conference required
Disrespectful toward staff members	1. 3 hrs. detention/apology 2. suspension/parent conference required

If the offense is serious in nature, the student can be suspended and/or referred for expulsion.

Use of offensive, abusive or obscene language between students	Suspension until parent conference.
Gambling	Suspension until parent conference
Selling/possession of unauthorized materials	Suspension until parent conference
Forgery	Suspension until parent conference
Fighting	See regulation on page 14
Tobacco/Smoking	See regulation on page 14
Cutting School	In-school suspension/parent conference required

Abusive, threatening obscene and/or offensive language toward a staff member	Suspension/parent conference required
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**If the offense is determined to be extremely serious,
recommendation for expulsion may be given.**

Vandalism (willful or careless)	1. Suspension/replacement of property and parent conference required. 2. Payment for damages and receive other punishment.
Theft	1. Suspension/replacement of property/parent conference required 2. Expulsion referral
Cell phone	Refer to County Code of Conduct
Tardy	See below
Dishonesty, in any form (cheating, etc.)	1. Suspension till parent conference 2. Additional suspension and/or expulsion referral (grade reduction is at the teacher's discretion)

RS-M High School Tardy Policy

Any student in the hall without a pass after the tardy bell will be sent to ISS. Early A.M. tardies are documented by assistant principal. Every tardy after the 3rd results in a detention hall. 4th tardy results in 3 hrs detention, 8th tardy results in 3 hours detention, 10th tardy results in 2 days of ISS, and after the 15th tardy the student is referred for expulsion.

Students must be in the classroom BEFORE the tardy bell or they will be marked tardy. Excused tardies (those with passes) will not be counted or recorded. Excessive tardy offenses could result in suspension.

ID Badge Rules

All students must appropriately wear their own school ID badge **from the moment they enter school grounds** during the school's hours of operation.

Students are to wear their ID badge in the chest area with the picture ID facing forward. It should be outside of all clothing including jackets. Badges may not be defaced or altered in any way. If students repeatedly fail to comply with these expectations, appropriate disciplinary consequences may follow. Students without ID badges will not be allowed to attend any field trips. ID badges are required in order to use the library facilities to check out materials or books.

ID Badge Violations/Consequences

There will be a 5 day grace period at the start of the school year. Thereafter, each badge violation will result in a one hour detention hall or three days lunch detention. Failing to serve detention can result in suspension. Students without their ID badge will be sent to the assistant principal's office. The cost to replace an ID badge is \$5.00. A temp badge costs \$1.00 and to replace a lanyard costs \$1.00.

Report Cards and Interim Reports

Report cards are sent home to parents at the end of each nine-week period. These reports are sent out for the purpose of informing parents concerning the progress of their child in school. Interim reports will be sent home for students at the midway date of each quarter.

Attendance

South Carolina attendance laws require each student to attend school until he/she is at least seventeen years old. Students may not miss more than ten (10) days unexcused. Parents can write notes to excuse up to 5 days for illness. Missing more than 10 days unexcused (5 days per semester course) will subject the student and/or parent to the state's truancy laws. The administration will also deny credit to a student for excessive absences.

Honor Roll

Students must be enrolled in four or more courses and have an average of 85 or better at the end of each nine weeks to be recognized. Various awards, recognition and privileges will be extended to each student. Honor roll cardholders will be allowed to go to lunch at the same time as the seniors.

Semester Exams

Semester exams shall be administered at the end of each semester and shall count 20% of the student's semester grade. Standardized end of the course tests in Algebra I, English I, Biology and US History are mandatory and count for 20% of the course grade.

Makeup Work Policy

If a student is absent on the day a test is given or other assigned work is due, the student is expected to make up the test or turn in the work on the day he/she returns. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT THE WORK IS MADE UP. If a student is absent for 2 to 5 days, the student will be given the number of days missed to make up the work.

However, if the assignment is made well in advance, and if nonew materials were covered during the absence, the student must turn in the work or take the test on his/her return. This applies to suspensions as well as other lawful absences. Any extenuating circumstances will need to be approved by the administration. If a student is absent for more than 5 days because of a documented extended illness, a death in the family, or other school-approved situations, the administration will determine the number of days allowed to make up work. For long-term suspensions (more than 5 days), the student has a maximum of five days to make up work and to take all tests missed.

Automobile Parking

The cost of a student parking permit will be \$20.00 for this school year. Students are permitted to park their vehicles ONLY in the student parking lot in front of the softball field. Violators may be fined, have their vehicle towed, and/or be denied parking privileges in authorized areas during the school day. Students are not allowed to sit in their vehicle once they have arrived on the school grounds. The student will need to present his/her driver's license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance when paying the parking fee. First year freshmen may not get a parking permit or drive to school. The parking permit must be visible from the outside at all times. Reckless driving or behavior or parking violations will result in punishment and/or suspension of parking privileges on school grounds.

We strongly encourage students to wear seat belts at all times. If it should come to the attention of the school administration that an individual has been apprehended for not wearing a seat belt on school property, then parking privileges will be suspended for one month. There is a designated SENIOR PARKING area in the front of the student parking lot. **Reserved Parking will be sold for \$35.00 per spot (this includes the cost of a permit). This parking is along the fencing in front of and beside the greenhouse.** Students without their parking decal need to report to the front office to purchase a temp parking pass for \$1.00. Parking is on a first-come, first-served basis. Painting, marking, decorating, or defacing of student parking spaces is not permitted.

Visitors

Visitors are welcome at RS-M High School, **Visitors must register** in the main office upon entering the building, and they will receive the appropriate pass. **Visitors wishing to visit with teachers and/or students during the school day are prohibited from doing so unless they have a scheduled conference. Persons entering school property are deemed to have consented to a search of their personal property (Act 373 of 1994).**

Medication

Medications cannot be given to students at school without the parents' written permission.

STUDENTS MUST BRING ANY MEDICATIONS TO THE OFFICE UPON ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL.

If a student is required to take oral medication during school hours, the principal or principal's designee may administer the medication if in compliance with the regulations that follow:

- Written permission by the parent shall be presented to school officials, along with the medications in a prescription container labeled with the following typed information:

student's name, name of medication, time to be administered, dosage, and physician's name

A record of when the medicine was given will be kept in the office.

- A copy of the school board regulation concerning oral medication in the school is available upon written request. Violations of this policy may be considered a expellable offense.

Fire Drills

Fire drills will be held once a month. When the signal is given, students are to form a line quickly and proceed single file to the exit designated by the teacher. Students are requested to move quickly and quietly, without running and pushing. Outside, students are not allowed to go in parked cars or school buses. Drills may occur at any time of the day. Upon completion of the drill, a bell will ring and students should return to their classes. Intentionally pulling a fire alarm when no emergency exists is a violation of state law, and severe disciplinary action will be taken.

Field Trips

The principal will approve educational trips which relate directly to the program of instruction. It is the responsibility of the student to get assignments for the classes to be missed prior to the field trip and to make up all work missed. **STUDENTS MUST HAVE PRIOR PARENTAL WRITTEN PERMISSION FOR ALL TRIPS.** Students are subject to school rules while on a field trip. Students who have excessive absences, discipline problems, or who are not performing satisfactorily in their classes may be denied approval to participate in a field trip.

School ID Badges are required to be worn at all times. No badge – No field trip! Field trips are an extension of the classroom. Therefore they are for the purpose of extending the instruction to a setting outside of school. Students or children other than those for which the field trip has been approved may not attend or accompany the group as a part of this extended classroom activity.

In-School Suspension

Students may be assigned to In-School Suspension for violations of the Code of Student Conduct. In-School Suspension will normally be held daily from 7:50 A.M. until 3:10 P.M. for **all students assigned to ISS.** Students will be counted present at school and will be expected to complete assignments provided by their teachers while assigned to In-School Suspension. Failure to abide by ISS rules will result in an out of school suspension.

Public Display of Affection

Students are to refrain from any public display of affection. We ask that students cooperate with us, thus maintaining a professional atmosphere at RS-M High. Every young person is expected to conduct him/herself in a respectable manner. This policy is to be observed at all school functions and all school sponsored events. **(Refrain from hugging, kissing, arm over the shoulder, etc.)**

Fighting/Violence

Students who participate in fighting which administrators deem to be a major disruption at school may be recommended for expulsion on the first offense. In most cases, students will be subject to arrest. **All fights will result in suspension.**

Smoking and Use of Tobacco

The board stipulates that it is unlawful for any student to smoke or possess any smoking materials, such as lighters, matches, rolling papers, chewing tobacco, snuff, or cigarettes. Any person using or having these materials on their person or in their book bag is violating the student code of conduct. Any person who holds a tobacco product for another person or simply passes a tobacco product from one user to another is violating the student code of conduct. This policy includes all school-sponsored activities on or off the RS-M campus. Minimum consequences if caught smoking/possession of smoking materials will be as follows:

1 st offense	3 days ISS/Parent conference
2 nd offense	3 days OSS
3 rd offense	5 days OSS
4 th offense	10 days OSS/recommendation for expulsion.

Early Dismissal

Seniors wishing late arrival or early dismissal must have parental/guardian written permission and have transportation. The student is required to leave campus immediately. He/she should return only with school permission. **Failure to follow this procedure will result in being placed in a study hall class.** All seniors must take a minimum of four credited classes per semester.

Library

The library (media center) is open from 7:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. On rare occasions, it may be limited to special activities as required by state, district, or school policies. Students are encouraged to use the library's reference materials, books, periodicals, computers, and other educational materials. Students may borrow books for up to two weeks. There is a charge for lost or unreturned materials. Students who attempt to leave the library without appropriately checking out materials may be subject to disciplinary consequences. School ID cards will be required in order to check out library books.

Athletics

The Athletic Department at RS-M High School is well developed to provide a variety of physical activities for young men and women. Eligibility rules for participation on a varsity or junior varsity team are the same as those of the South Carolina High School League. To be eligible, a student must be 19 years old or younger, must have passed five subjects in the previous semester (if a student passes only four subjects, then he/she must pass all the required subjects to be eligible), and his/her parents must be residents of the attendance area served by the high school. All athletes must have purchased school insurance for the current school year or must show proof of being covered by a health insurance policy prior to trying out for any sport.

Any student who letters in any varsity sport will be eligible to purchase a RS-M High letter jacket.

Listed below are ticket prices for athletic events for those without a student pass:

Varsity Football-----	\$6.00	JV Football-----	\$5.00
Varsity Basketball-----	\$6.00	JV Basketball-----	\$5.00
Volleyball-----	\$5.00	Baseball-----	\$5.00
Softball -----	\$5.00	JV Baseball-----	\$5.00
JV Softball-----	\$5.00	Track-----	Free

Athletic Policy

1. Any athlete guilty of an offense resulting in recommendation for expulsion will not be permitted to play any sport while attending school on probation for the current year.
2. An athlete must practice with his/her team at least two weeks before being permitted to play in an event. Athletes who just finished another sport are exempt from this rule. Exceptions may be made for transfer students who have been practicing with another team.
3. A coach may deny a team member the right to practice for another school team before the current team's season is completed, unless both sport coaches agree.
4. Any athlete charged with a serious offense by local law enforcement will be prohibited from participating or practicing in any sport until the situation has been investigated by the school administration.
5. Any athlete who has been suspended in or out of school cannot practice or play in any athletic event until he/she has met the suspension requirements.
6. Each athlete must attend school for at least 1/2 day (four full periods of class) to be eligible to participate in any athletic events or practice on that particular day. Exceptions can be made in the event of extended visits to a doctor.
7. Any athlete suspended (in or out of school) will be suspended for a minimum of one contest.
8. Each season begins on the official High School League starting date for practice.
9. Coaches may make additional rules to govern practice, games, and participation. Students are obligated to comply with coaches' expectations.

RS-M High Athletic Programs

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>LEVEL</u>
Football	JV & Varsity
Basketball	JV & Varsity
Baseball	JV & Varsity
Softball	JV & Varsity
Archery	Varsity
Track	Varsity
Golf	Varsity
Soccer	JV & Varsity
Volleyball	Varsity
Cheerleading	Varsity