

RIVERHEAD HIGH SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Guardians of Riverhead Middle School Students,

RMS eighth graders will be eligible to participate in the Riverhead High School's NJROTC program beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year. NJROTC is a citizen-development program co-sponsored by the United States Navy and Riverhead Central School District. There is no actual or implied military commitment associated with participation. Eighth grade participants will be authorized to ride the high school bus to school in the morning each day and will be assigned to Naval Science class during the RHS 1st period (7:16 – 8:03 AM). Transportation to the middle school will be provided at the end of class. Participants will earn a full high school elective credit and will be integrated into NJROTC unit activities, including competitive teams, field trips and community outreach programs.

Participating cadets will be issued official Navy uniforms at U.S. Government expense. Uniforms are typically worn once every two weeks. Eighth grade cadets will be instructed alongside other first-year cadets and selected 4th-year cadets (the latter assisting with instruction and mentorship). The benefits of early participation in the NJROTC are numerous. Motivated eighth graders would have access to a popular program that provides instruction in citizenship and encourages self-discipline and community service. Participants will routinely interact with high-achieving high school seniors under the supervision of certified instructors.

Interested students, parents and guardians are encouraged to contact their respective middle school guidance counselors to discuss participation. Since instruction can only be scheduled prior to the commencement of the middle school academic day, **space will be limited.** Ideal candidates will have a proven record of academic accomplishment, maturity, regular attendance and an above average level of physical fitness. Information on the NJROTC course offering can be found here: https://www.riverhead.net/Assets/RHS_Guidance/020921_Course_Offering_Booklet_2021-2022.

For specific questions related to the NJROTC program, please feel free to contact the NJROTC office in the high school at (631) 369-6806 to speak with one of the instructors.

Matthew E. Loughlin
Captain, U.S. Navy (Ret)