



June 2025

Dear Incoming Grade 9 Students and Families:

Congratulations on completing middle school! We are excited to have you join us in the Upper School at Rising Tide Charter Public School. Below you will find information about what to expect next year, as well as information on summer reading expectations and classroom supplies. Please see the next page of this letter for a list of required items for Grade 9 classes.

Individual student schedules and Advisory group assignments will be available through the Community Portal in mid-August. Elective course choices for the first semester will be distributed to students in the first week of school.

The Grade 9 Guiding Question is, "How can we recognize and demonstrate courage?" Students will explore this question throughout the year as part of their courses as well as other grade-level activities. In Grade 9, we also ask students to build self-awareness, become more independent and active learners, develop consistent work habits, and set goals for the future. Students will be challenged to think critically and view ideas from multiple perspectives in all classes. They should also expect to read challenging texts independently, develop research skills, and communicate effectively through both speaking and writing. In order to be prepared for classes each day, students should expect to spend approximately two hours on homework per night. Students are expected to demonstrate their growing skills as Self-Directed Learners by seeking help from teachers in class and during Academic Support and teacher office hours.

As part of our academic program, Grade 9 students will take English I, U.S. History I, Introductory Physics, a Math course (Geometry or Algebra I), a World Language course (either Latin or Spanish), Visual Art Foundation, Theatre Foundation, Physical Fitness, Digital Literacy, and Elective courses. Students also will participate in a comprehensive wellness program as one of their Fitness rotations, which includes units about mental health, substance abuse, sleep, nutrition, relationships, and social media. The Grade 9 year includes many special opportunities for enrichment both in and outside of the classroom, and students will have the opportunity to participate in our growing athletics program and a variety of clubs.

Students are expected to acquire and [read one of the summer reading choice books](#). They should choose from the following books: *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner, *In the Country We Love* by Diane Guerrero, *Last Night at the Telegraph Club* by Malinda Lo, or *How to Solve Your Own Murder* by Kristen Perrin. Students should come to school ready to participate in various discussions and activities connected to the book.

Fluency in multiplication and division facts is key for student success in Algebra and higher level mathematics. All students should have their multiplication and division facts memorized. They can practice for free at [factfreaks.com](http://factfreaks.com).

We look forward to seeing you at the Open House on **Monday, August 25th**.

Sincerely,  
The Grade 9 Advisory Team

**Required materials for Grade 9 students:**

<b>For All Classes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Pens and pencils</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Highlighters</li></ul>	
<b>English:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) two-inch, three-ring binder</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> White lined paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Dividers</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) in-binder hole punch</li></ul>	
<b>History:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) two-inch, three-ring binder with:</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> White lined paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Dividers</li></ul>	
<b>Visual Art:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) eighteen-inch transparent plastic ruler</li></ul>	
<b>Theatre:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) pack of colored pencils</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) single-subject notebook with a pocket or separate folder for handouts</li></ul>	
<b>Science:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) two-inch, three-ring binder</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> White lined paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Graph paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Dividers</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> A scientific calculator (<i>same as the Math calculator - see below</i>)</li></ul>	
<b>Latin:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) two-inch, three-ring binder</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> White lined paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Dividers</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) pack of dry erase markers</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) pack of 3" x 5" index cards</li></ul>	<b>Spanish:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) two-inch, three-ring binder</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> White lined paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Dividers</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) mid-size notebook</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) pack of dry erase markers</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) pack of 3" x 5" index cards</li></ul>
<b>Geometry:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) scientific calculator OR (1) TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator*</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) two-inch, three-ring binder with:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> white lined paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> graph paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> dividers</li></ul></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) twelve-inch ruler</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) protractor</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) compass</li></ul>	<b>Algebra I:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) scientific calculator OR (1) TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator*</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) two-inch, three-ring binder with:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> white lined paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> graph paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> dividers</li></ul></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> (1) twelve-inch ruler</li></ul>
<b>*Students are not required to have a graphing calculator for Algebra I or Geometry but will need a Texas Instruments (TI) Graphing Calculator for future courses, so families are encouraged to invest in one now, if possible.</b>	