



# Important Dates and Information for New Families

**Monday, August 31, 2026 - Open House & Orientation Events**

**Tuesday, September 1, 2026 - First Day of School**

**Thursday, June 17, 2027 - Last Day of School, Scheduled**

**Monday, June 21-25, 2027 - Make-up Days, If Necessary**

Please refer to our full [Academic Calendar for 2026-2027](#) school year, available on our website.

## Daily Arrival and Dismissal

Our doors open in the morning at 7:25 a.m., and classes begin promptly at 7:45 a.m. Dismissal time is at 3:00pm four days a week. Every Wednesday is an Early Release Day, with dismissal at 12:00 p.m.

## Transportation

**All student bus riders must complete a bus application every year.** Bus applications will be available in the Spring.

**Plymouth Residents:** First Student Transportation, through the Plymouth Public School District, provides bus transportation to and from Rising Tide for Plymouth residents, following the nominal fee structure set by the Plymouth Public Schools. Bus routes are usually available in late August.

Residents of Barnstable, Bourne, Carver, Duxbury, Falmouth, Freetown, Halifax, Kingston, Lakeville, Marion, Marshfield, Mashpee, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, Pembroke, Plympton, Rochester, Sandwich, and Wareham: Rising Tide offers regional bus routes with community stops for each route. Please be advised that the routes listed below are for the current 2024-2025 school year and are subject to change depending upon the needs for the 2025-2026 school year.

## **REGIONAL BUS A (Southwest) - *for Wareham students with last name initial A-L***

1. Walmart, 15 Tobey Road, Wareham Pick up 6:53 a.m. / Drop off 3:26 p.m.

## **REGIONAL BUS B (South)**

1. Stop & Shop, corner Quaker Meeting House Rd. Pick up 6:50 a.m. / Drop off 3:35 p.m. and Cotuit Road, Sandwich

## **REGIONAL BUS C (North)**

1. Roche Bros., 605 Plain Street, Marshfield Pick up 6:36 a.m. / Drop off 3:46 p.m.

2. Stop & Shop, 24 Mattakesett St., Pembroke Pick up 6:52 a.m. / Drop off 3:32 p.m.

3. Big Y, 282 Summer Street, Kingston Pick up 7:15 a.m. / Drop off 3:15 p.m.

### **REGIONAL BUS D (West)**

1. Walmart, 295 Plymouth St., Halifax Pick up 7:01 a.m. / Drop off 3:28 p.m.
2. Shaw's, 100 N. Main Street, Carver Pick up 7:14 a.m. / Drop off 3:14 p.m.

### **REGIONAL BUS E (Southwest)**

1. Berry Guys Farm, 342 Tremont St., Carver Pick up 6:41 a.m. / Drop off 3:46 p.m.
2. Planet Fitness, 10 Merchants Way, Middleboro Pick up 7:06 a.m. / Drop off 3:26 p.m.

### **REGIONAL BUS F (South)**

1. Ocean State Job Lot, 285 Main St., Buzzards Bay Pick up 6:27 a.m. / Drop off 3:50 p.m.
2. Park & Ride at Sagamore Bridge, Bourne Pick up 6:59 a.m. / Drop off 3:35 p.m.

### **REGIONAL BUS G (Southwest) - *for Wareham students with last name initial M-Z***

1. Walmart, 15 Tobey Road, Wareham Pick up 6:53 a.m. / Drop off 3:26 p.m.

Residents of Other Towns in Massachusetts: Please let us know if you would like help arranging a carpool with other families in your residential area.

### **Lunch and Breakfast**

The school offers a nutritious lunch, with a hot and a cold choice each day, provided by an outside vendor. Students have a choice to buy lunch at school or bring their own lunch from home. Breakfast is also available each day. Breakfast and lunch are free for all students.

### **Student Dress Code**

Dress Code Rising Tide Charter Public School encourages students to dress for the work of school. The primary responsibility for a student's attire resides with the student and the student's parents or guardians. While students are able to express their individuality through their attire, a student's attire must not interfere with the health or safety of others and must not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student.

- Students must wear tops and bottoms, or an equivalent single garment, that cover the groin, buttocks, and torso.
- Students must wear footwear.
- Students are expected to wear appropriate attire, including footwear, for certain courses such as physical education, dance, and theater.
- Students cannot wear visible undergarments.
- Students cannot wear hats, hoods, and other head coverings within the school building; exceptions are made for individuals observing genuinely held religious beliefs. Students may wear headbands.
- Students cannot wear attire that includes language, or images, that contain hate speech, violence, profanity, pornography, drugs, drug paraphernalia, alcohol, or any other illegal activity.

Any member of the school community may bring, in a respectful manner, concerns about attire directly to the student, a Teacher, the Advisor, and/or a School Leader. With regard to the Dress Code, each student is to be treated equitably regardless of race, color, national origin, creed, sex, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, homelessness, mental or physical disability, age, ancestry,

proficiency in the English language or in a foreign language, prior academic achievement, or body size or maturity. The School Leader will explore the nature of the concern and respond appropriately according to the Community Standards of Behavior.

### **Phones and Smart Devices**

Students are expected to be present with the rest of the school community during all program times at Rising Tide. Students are not permitted to use mobile phones or other smart devices, including wearable smart devices, to make calls or send text messages within the school building. Phones need to be turned off and put away, such as in a locker or bag upon entering the school building. Personal headphones or airbuds must also be off and away upon entering the school building. This rule applies during school hours within the building. This rule also applies to school field work and special trips, unless specific permission has been granted for a trip. Exceptions may be made for students with a medical need for a smart device.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities: Arts, Athletics, Clubs, Travel Programs**

- **Arts:** Beyond the regular school day, students can join extra-curricular programs in the arts. Middle and Upper school students have opportunities to join after-school theater productions.
- **Athletics:** Rising Tide is a member of the Cape & Islands League within the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA). Our high school interscholastic teams include baseball, basketball, cross-country, golf, soccer, softball, tennis, and volleyball. Rising Tide also has a Dance Team. While older Middle School students are eligible to join some high school interscholastic teams, we also have Middle School Soccer and Middle School Basketball teams compete against other schools on the Cape; middle school students have also competed against other schools in cross-country and tennis.
- **Clubs:** At Rising Tide, Middle and Upper school students can get involved in a variety of clubs during and after the school day. Club offerings include Chess, Computer, Dance, Eco, Junior Classical League, Language, Model UN, Debate, Games, Community Action, Newspaper, Ping Pong, Poetry, Science Club, Sports, Student Government, and Yearbook.
- **Travel Programs:** Rising Tide offers students travel opportunities so they can immerse themselves in other languages and cultures. Each year, groups of Grade 8 students and teachers travel to Italy, visiting Pompeii and Rome. Upper School students also have the opportunity to travel in order to broaden their knowledge of other cultures and expand their world view. Past destinations have included Ireland, Galápagos Islands, London, Spain, Peru, France, Germany, and Mexico.

### **Extended Day Option at Boys and Girls Club of Plymouth**

For Wednesday afternoons, or as an alternate care option, The Boys and Girls Club of Plymouth offers programming at their location at 9 Resnik Road. This is just 1.5 miles from our campus and is accessible for our students via afternoon bus from Rising Tide. The club is open for members ages 6-18. Memberships are \$50 and are good for the year.

They offer the Compass Zone program to Rising Tide students in grades 5 through 8. Students may take an afternoon bus at dismissal and go to the club for snack, homework help, and all of their club programming. There is a weekly fee.

Rising Tide Upper School students (grades 9 through 12) may become members for \$50 for the year and take an afternoon bus to the club. There is no weekly fee for high school students.

For Early Release Wednesdays: Rising Tide students may go to the Boys & Girls Club on their early release days. If students are only going to the club on early release days, the fee is \$50 and is for students in grades 5 through 12. Check out their website at: <https://www.bgcplymouth.org/zone/> for more details.

### **Advisory Program**

The Advisory Program is central to the structure of supportive relationships at Rising Tide. Each Rising Tide student has a faculty Advisor, who is also a teacher at the school. Each Advisory group acts as a small community within the grade level and the school, and each grade level has a team of advisors who work together throughout the year to support the personal and academic growth of the students. The advisor is the primary advocate for each student within the school, and the primary point person at the school for families to contact.

Grade-level Advisory Teams work together to support the personal and academic growth of students. Teams collaboratively develop and implement an Advisory curriculum connected to the grade level guiding question that addresses Community Building and Future Planning.

Student/Advisor/Parent Conferences are held after the first and third academic quarters and are mandatory for students and parents/guardians. The student is the center of the conference, and all of the adults in the student's life work together to support the growth and development of the student. These conferences are designed for reflection upon and open communication about a student's successes and areas for improvement.

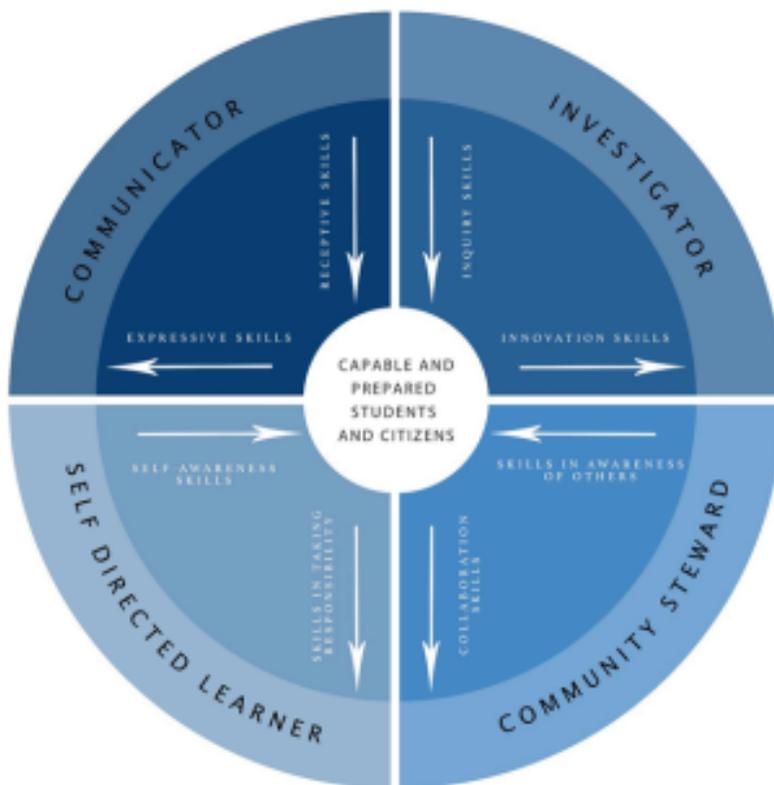
### **Student Support Services**

Please share any records or information concerning your child's specific learning needs when you return your registration packet. This will allow us to ensure that we have the appropriate supports in place for your child for the coming school year. We do request records from your child's current school, but often we do not receive the records right away.

- For students with disabilities, please share with us copies of current IEP and 504 forms and recent evaluations
- For English Language Learners, please share copies of recent ACCESS testing and English Learner progress reports

Once we have reviewed information about your child, we will reach out if we have any questions about your child's needs. Please feel free to contact our Director of Student Support, Lauren Macpherson, at 508-747-2620 x508 or [lmacpherson@risingtide.org](mailto:lmacpherson@risingtide.org), with any questions.

## Approach to Teaching & Learning



At Rising Tide, we use an inquiry and skills-based approach, for both personal and academic growth. The inquiry and skills-based approach is used to support personal growth by encouraging students to reflect, take ownership for their actions, and build skills to resolve conflicts. Questioning is at the heart of the inquiry and skills-based approach. When a challenging social or disciplinary issue arises with a student, the adult takes time to listen to and question the student about the situation. In this way, the student is given an opportunity to reflect upon the situation and is supported in the process of understanding and resolving the issue. Student mistakes are treated as teachable moments from which students may learn and grow. In a social or disciplinary setting, this approach encourages students to take responsibility, advocate for themselves, and develop an awareness of themselves and others.

The inquiry and skills-based approach is used to support academic growth by encouraging students to think critically and ask questions. Teaching and learning at Rising Tide is approached as a process of exploration rather than a reporting of information and memorization of facts. In an inquiry and skills-based classroom, teachers and students engage in meaningful questions and discussions, collect and analyze information, draw conclusions, and communicate an understanding of the material. The inquiry and skills-based approach is not limited to project-based learning; the approach may be used in posing challenges where direct skill instruction is taking place, such as working with a piece of literature, a mathematical pattern, or a scientific problem. In this academic environment, a teacher acts as a facilitator for student learning, encouraging and leading the questioning, listening and directing student discovery, and constructively critiquing for better understanding or development of skills. At Rising Tide, each student is acknowledged as a critical thinker who brings valuable prior knowledge and experiences to the classroom. Students are expected to be active learners, and teachers are expected to help students build skills as well as navigate and make sense of the world.



# Rising Tide Enrollment Check List

## After the Annual Enrollment Lottery - By March 12th

- Complete and submit the Student Registration forms**
  - Forms must be completed entirely and submitted, either via mail or in-person.
  - Attachments ( including copy of birth certificate, proof of residency, immunization records, custody documents, etc. must be included with the completed forms)
- Students Registering for Grade 9 ONLY:** [Submit a Language Selection Form](#) to indicate which world language course you prefer to study.
- Register for Accepted Students' Day - We will email you an RSVP link**
- Review the Rising Tide Student Handbook**
- Share your plans to enroll at Rising Tide with your child's current school**
- Review our [Family Resources](#) and Newly Accepted Student - FAQ**  
*Contact us at [admissions@risingtide.org](mailto:admissions@risingtide.org) or if you have further questions*

## April 2026 - July 2026

- Submit a bus application**
- Complete an application for Free and Reduced Price Meals**  
Please note that even though meals will be free for all, it is very important for families to still complete the application each year in order to qualify for free or reduced fees for bus, athletic, testing, and many club fees.
- Notify Rising Tide if you have any updates regarding your plans to enroll your child, your residence, or other important information.**  
It is important for Rising Tide to maintain current contact information for all students and their families. Alternatively, If you have decided to enroll your child in a different school, you must notify us directly to ensure that the appropriate school is prepared to enroll your child.
- Keep an eye out for 2026-2027 school year e-communications** including summer reading lists, supply lists, grade-level welcome letters, and other important information.
- Save The Date : Monday, August 31, 2026 - Open house & Orientation Events**