



## *Dixie M. Hollins High School*

4940 62<sup>nd</sup> Street N  
St. Petersburg, FL 33709

(727) 547-7876

Fax (727) 547-7727

[www.pcsb.org/dixiehollins-hs](http://www.pcsb.org/dixiehollins-hs)



30 August 2024

### **REQUEST FOR SUPPORT** to the Hollins High School Royal Battalion JROTC Cadets

**Purpose:** To ensure Hollins High School Royal Battalion JROTC Cadets have adequate resources to grow as citizens and leaders through the extra-curricular programs.

**Background:** The Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) is the largest youth program, with an accredited high school curriculum. It serves as a character and leadership development program for our nation's high school students. High school students enrolled in JROTC are "Cadets." There are approximately 314,000 Cadets enrolled in JROTC in 1,731 high schools, led by 4,000 retired Army Instructors.

The JROTC program prepares high school students for responsible leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities and privileges as American citizens. The program is a stimulus for promoting graduation from high school, and it provides instruction and rewarding opportunities which benefit the student, community and nation. The curriculum is based on the principles of performance-based, learner-centered education and promotes development of core abilities: capacity for lifelong learning, communication, responsibility for actions and choices, good citizenship, respectful treatment of others, and critical thinking techniques.

Classroom instruction is only part of what Cadets need to fully realize their potential. Cadets are encouraged to participate in one or more activities or sports while at Hollins High School and there are numerous sports, clubs, and activities available to cadets year-round. At present, Hollins JROTC offers the five extracurricular activities for both male and female cadets, Raider Team, Drill Team, Exhibition Team, Color Guard, Honor Guard, and a JROTC Leadership Academic Bowl (JLAB) Team.

**Discussion:** Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) James Collins and Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Edwin Rivera Rivera are the Army Instructors for the Hollins High School JROTC "Royal" Battalion with the self-imposed mission to train and develop 200 Cadets annually into leaders and responsible citizens. Royal Battalion Cadets are mostly from Title One, low-income families and work tirelessly to make better futures for themselves, but they need your help.

The United States Army provides JROTC programs with an annual budget for purchasing uniforms, shoes and boots, awards and ribbons, and equipment used for training and competitions. The funds provided Hollins High School JROTC only allow replacement of a fraction of the uniforms and equipment that become damaged or destroyed from the previous



## *Dixie M. Hollins High School*

4940 62<sup>nd</sup> Street N  
St. Petersburg, FL 33709

(727) 547-7876

Fax (727) 547-7727

[www.pcsb.org/dixiehollins-hs](http://www.pcsb.org/dixiehollins-hs)



year. The Royal Battalion receives no funding for competition registration fees or transportation to and from the competitions. Each competition costs between \$100 and \$150 to enter and between \$800 to \$1200 in transportation costs.

There have been significant improvements in the HHS JROTC program, both academic and administrative. The battalion classrooms have been cleaned, painted, and reorganized. The instructional training program has transitioned to a 100% digital instructional environment with an online resource library and the Army Instructors completely realigned class schedules to enhance Cadet learning and interaction. Despite all the obstacles Royal Battalion Cadets face, Hollins High School JROTC has a growing Raider Challenge team and Championship Drill Team. Recently, Pinellas County invested a great deal towards classroom furniture, storage, and funding an obstacle course build for our Varsity Raider Team to train on. There's great progress but the Cadets are still in desperate need of support.

The CSM and I spend several hours a day after school for practices, on weekends for competitions, and one week in the summer at camp to support our Cadets. We've both invested thousands of dollars of our own money to replace equipment and uniforms, buy snacks for practice, meals at competitions, and a host of other things, and are asking for your help. Anything you can provide is greatly appreciated. With your support Hollins HS JROTC Cadets will thrive; donations go towards the items below.

A formal Military Ball for Cadets  
Replacement drill rifles and parts  
Replacement Honor Guard Sabers  
National, state, and battalion colors and streamers  
Guidons  
CamelBak's  
Boots  
Rappel ropes  
Class A/B uniforms  
OCP uniforms  
Socks and t-shirts  
Canopies for cover at competitions  
Storage bins for transporting equipment to events  
Forty folding chairs for use at competitions  
Funds to pay for transportation to and from up to 10 competitions a year  
Funds for snacks at practice and meals at competitions  
Motivational signage for the classroom  
Signage for our Annual Royal Rumble Raider Competition  
Rucksacks  
Weighted vest



## *Dixie M. Hollins High School*

4940 62<sup>nd</sup> Street N  
St. Petersburg, FL 33709

(727) 547-7876

Fax (727) 547-7727

[www.pcsb.org/dixiehollins-hs](http://www.pcsb.org/dixiehollins-hs)



To see our Cadets in action please visit the Hollins High School website JROTC webpage at <https://www.pcsb.org/domain/3806>.

Monetary donations may be made to Hollins High School JROTC in the form of a check and mailed to 4940 62<sup>nd</sup> Street N St. Petersburg, FL 33709. Please send us an email to let us know to be on the lookout for your donation. Donations of \$500 receive advertisement space for a five by seven-foot sign with your company logo, interest, or congratulatory message, etc. Donations of \$1000 receive space for advertisements or banners of five by fifteen-foot. If you'd like to make equipment donations, please contact us for a specific list. There are sponsorship opportunities as well. Please contact us for details.

For questions or additional information, please contact the undersigned at (727) 547-7876 or email [riverariverae@pcsb.org](mailto:riverariverae@pcsb.org) or [collinsjam@pcsb.org](mailto:collinsjam@pcsb.org).

Sincerely,

Edwin Rivera Rivera  
CSM(R)  
Army Instructor

James B. Collins  
LTC(R), IN  
Senior Army Instructor