



Dixie M. Hollins High School

4940 62nd Street N
St. Petersburg, FL 33709

(727) 547-7876

Fax (727) 547-7727

www.pcsb.org/dixiehollins-hs



28 August 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR: Parent of the Royal Battalion JROTC Cadets

Purpose: To ensure that Royal Battalion JROTC Cadets have received the JROTC Cadet Handbook, understand what the purpose of the US Army JROTC Program is, what the curriculum involves, what the requirements are, and what extracurricular opportunities exists.

Background: The need for leaders in all segments of society is apparent. In particular, the discipline and training necessary for any fighting unit to function properly requires trained and dedicated leaders. In 1819 Captain Alden Partridge, a former superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, started a program of Military education at Norwich University. Other colleges and universities followed suit; however, it wasn't until 1862 when the U. S. Congress, recognizing a national need, established the Morrill Act. This act granted lands and money to those schools that would offer military training. In 1916, Congress passed the National Defense Act which established ROTC as we know it today. Senior ROTC (college level) is designed to produce officers for the armed forces. Junior ROTC is designed to teach citizenship, patriotism, leadership, and respect for constituted authority.

The Dixie M. Hollins High School JROTC Unit was established 1 July 1977, by the Department of the Army General Order number 9 dated 23 May 1977. Dixie has the honor of having the first Army Junior ROTC program in Pinellas County. In 1982 the Dixie M. Hollins Corps of Cadets was awarded Honor Unit and has been Honor Unit or Honor Unit with Distinction (the highest rating possible) all but one year since 1984. The corps has also been the proud producer of several West Point graduates and numerous Senior ROTC scholarship recipients. Over the years Dixie M. Hollins has been a model program for others to emulate. In the summer of 2020, Dixie M. Hollins High School was renamed Hollins High School and the mascot changed from Rebels to Royals.

Discussion: 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.



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The Army JROTC program is accredited by Cognia, to include Common Core State Standards (CCSS.) 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. Teachers are trained to utilize a range of technologies and develop social/emotional skills, support academic content through gaming and simulations, and promote the role of social media. Thus, students engage in meaningful, purposeful activities that lead them to demonstrate success through a portfolio of accomplishments. Grades are determined by measuring Cadet performance across a wide spectrum of academic and participation tasks and Cadets that fully engaged in the JROTC Program will have no difficulty being successful.

Cadets in LET levels 2-4 will be issued a uniform (at no cost to the student) which they will be required to wear once a week to Leadership Lab (Wednesday or Thursday depending on class schedule) and must wear the uniform for the entire day with a few exceptions such as shop, culinary arts, and physical education. The Leadership Lab is primarily held outdoors, and the Florida sun makes it hot. We provide ice cold water for the Cadets, but they are required to bring an insulated water bottle of at least 20oz. to class and lab every day. Cadets in LET level 1 may be issued uniforms based on availability. Cadets will be inspected and graded during Leadership Lab on the day they wear the uniform. Cadets that haven't been issued uniforms will not be inspected. Uniforms are expected to be clean and wrinkle free with all ribbons, cords, and other achievements affixed as per regulation. Uniforms are required to be cleaned and returned when the Cadet leaves the HHS JROTC program or at the end of the school year. Cadets are required to maintain a neat and orderly appearance while in uniform. A Cadet's hair will not cover the eyebrows, ears, or collar and may not be dyed an unnatural color, i.e. blue, green, purple, pink etc. Uniform inspection scores will be averaged at the end of the grading period and account for 20 percent of the JROTC grade. Additional information regarding uniform wear and requirements can be found on the HHS JROTC webpage under Cadet Resources. Cadets may be exempt from wearing their uniform (on Wednesday or Thursday) if he/she wore it at a drill/raider competition, color guard, promotion board, or any other official JROTC event that week.

Cadets are encouraged to participate in one or more activities or sports while at Hollins High School. Numerous sports, clubs, and activities are available to cadets year-round. At the present time Hollins JROTC offers the following extracurricular activities for both male and female cadets, Raider Team, Drill Team, Exhibition Team, Color Guard, and Honor Guard. Parents, guardians, families, and friends are encouraged to attend JROTC competitions.

The Hollins High School Royal Battalion requests that each Cadet contribute twenty dollars (\$20) to the Battalion fund. These funds are used to provide a company t-shirt to each Cadet to use during formations, during physical training, field day, and extra-curricular events. Any remaining funds are applied to cups, plates, flatware, snacks, bottled water, etc. If Cadets



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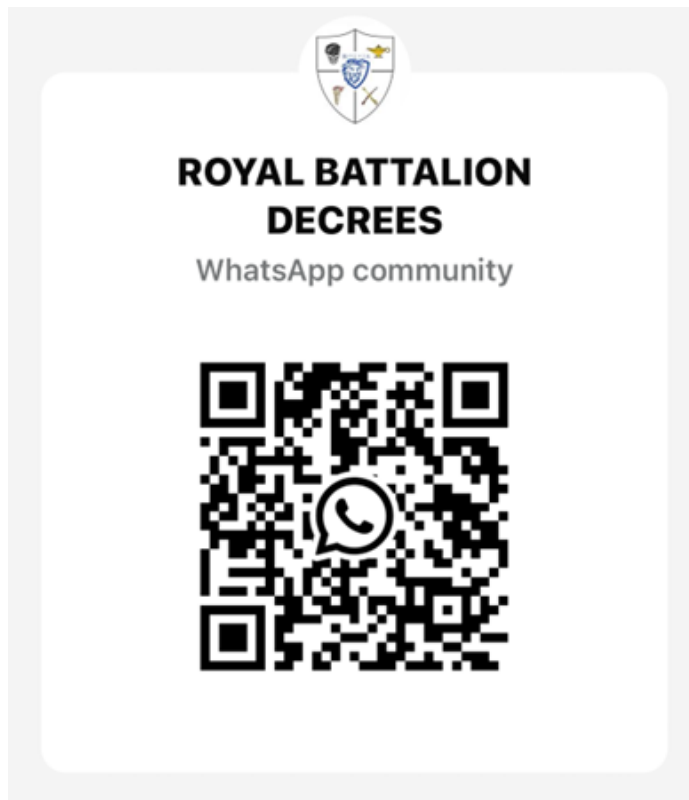
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are in Raiders, Drill, or Exhibition teams, we request an additional twenty dollars (\$20) per team. Parents are encouraged to participate as much as their schedule allows. We are always in need of volunteers and Pinellas County School Board offers classes and conducts background investigations on all volunteers to ensure the safety of your children. If interested, please contact us. Catalog

The Royal Battalion Cadre and Cadet Leadership requests all Cadets join the Royal Battalion Decrees community on WhatsApp. This secure page is a safe way for Cadre and Cadet Leadership to disseminate information applicable to class, lab, and special teams. Parents are encouraged to join and may monitor all communications to and from Cadre and Cadets. Please use the QR code below to join.



We are always in need of volunteers and Pinellas County School Board offers classes and conducts background investigations on all volunteers to ensure the safety of your children. If interested, If you are interested in becoming a volunteer and would like further information please visit the Hollins High School webpage at <https://www.pcsb.org/hollins-hs>, click on the "Get Engaged" tab at the top of the page and select volunteer.



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Conclusion: The Hollins High School JROTC Royal Battalion Cadre are pleased to have over 130 enrolled Cadets enrolled in the program this year and look forward to what promises to be an exciting and rewarding school year. If additional information is needed, please contact the undersigned at (727) 547-7876 or email at riverae@pcsb.org or collinsjam@pcsb.org.

Sincerely,

Edwin Rivera Rivera
CSM(R)
Army Instructor

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

Cadet Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____