

Rachel Carson Middle School
MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOK STAFF
APPLICATION PACKET

Complete parts 1 and 2 of the application. When you are finished, email both parts to me at cecouch@fcps.edu. You must email both parts in the same email. This is due no later than February 19. Late applications will not be accepted.

PART 1: Answer these questions.

1. What school do you currently attend?
2. What grade are you in?
3. What after school activities are you involved in?
4. What are your two best characteristics/traits? Explain or provide an example of each.
5. Yearbook involves working in groups with others. What makes group work easy for you? What makes group work difficult for you?
6. Why do you want to be a member of the yearbook staff? What skills would you bring to the yearbook staff that would make it better?
7. Why do you think that you should be selected for the yearbook staff?
8. Do you have any special skills or interest in photography? Please explain. If you aren't a photographer, don't worry...we will teach you.

PART 2: Complete a yearbook writing sample. Guidelines and an example are on the back of this page.

PART 3: One completed teacher recommendation- It is your responsibility to give the form to a teacher and ask them to return them to me by Friday, February 19.

ALL student application materials are due Friday, February 19, 2021

Late applications will NOT be accepted. Yearbook is a deadline-based class. Consider this your first deadline!

Thank you for your interest in yearbook. If you or your parents have any questions, please contact me.

Contact Information

Room: B125

Email: cecouch@fcps.edu

Writing Sample Instructions

Guidelines:

1. Third person (except for quotes)
2. Past tense (except for quotes)
3. 150-200 words
4. No editorializing (opinion) or summarizing
5. Include three quotes from a student in your grade that provides more information for your article.
6. Punctuate quotes correctly. See examples in the article below.

Prompts- choose one:

1. Write about one specific learning activity, event, field trip or performance at your school (can be a virtual experience this year!)
2. Write about trends in tween/teen life, 2020-2021.
3. Write about an interesting person (student or teacher) at your school.
4. Write about a sport or after school activity students at your school participate in (can be a virtual activity this year!)

Sample Yearbook Copy

Phones took center stage for students as they walked the halls, ate their lunches and rode the bus. Social media and games were typically what kids were absorbed in. Snapchat was especially popular with students who enjoyed the variety of filters.

"The dog filter on Snapchat is my favorite, it's so cute. The flower crown filter is popular with a lot of kids because it makes everyone look good," said eighth grader Sophie North.

Phones and tablets were increasingly used in classrooms. Kahoot livened up lessons by turning them into games. Google Classroom allowed students to easily access assignments, email teachers and collaborate with other students.

"I like it when teachers let us use our phones in class. It actually keeps me more focused, especially if we get to listen to music. Some kids try to watch Netflix and YouTube in class so I can see why some teachers don't like it," said seventh grader Roger West.

Kids used their devices to help with homework as well. Khan Academy, Photo Math and Google Translate were favorites.

"I always use my phone for homework. I research things, check my grade on SIS and use the calculator," said seventh grader Steven South. (200 words)

If you would like for me to check over your article before you turn in your application, email it to me and I will help you with editing! cecouch@fcps.edu

TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

Recommendations are not to be shared with the applicant.

Teacher's Name/Subject: _____ School _____

Student's Name: _____

Please return this form to Cali Couch by **Friday, February 19** via one of the following methods:

- Cali Couch's Carson staff mailbox OR Room B125 (if we have returned to school)
- FCPS Pony (*elementary school teachers-* if we have returned to school)
- Email a photo or scan of the completed form to: cecouch@fcps.edu

	Superior	Above Average	Average	Fair	Poor	N/A
Effort in class						
Behavior in class						
Desires to do excellent work even if it requires redoing						
Works well with others						
Student is motivated and a self-starter						
Does student turn assignments in on time? Meet deadlines?						
Is able to accept and act upon constructive criticism?						
STRONG writing skills						

Students in yearbook must be able to work well with others as well as receive direction from student leaders. Does this student get along well with others? Is this student productive when working in groups?

Other comments:

I would:

- _____ Highly recommend this student
- _____ Moderately recommend this student
- _____ Not recommend this student

Thank you so much for your help! Please email me with any concerns, questions or recommendations:
cecouch@fcps.edu