



RICH TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 227

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July 24, 2020

Dear Rich Township Families,

Earlier this week at our Board of Education meeting, we shared our plans for the opening of 2020-21 school year. Rich Township High School District 227's focus is on having students in school as often as possible while maintaining a safe and healthy environment for our students and staff. The Board of Education approved the [Fall 2020 Reopening Plan and 2020-2021 Remote Learning Plan](#), which provides details on the two alternate methods the district plans to deliver instruction this fall: a **Hybrid Learning Plan** and a **Remote Learning Plan**. A more detailed look at this plan can be also viewed in this week's video message.

[Click here to watch the July 24 video message.](#)

We are asking all parents to update your contact information with your campus registrar (STEM Campus – Greta Allen at gallen@rich227.org or Fine Arts and Communications Campus – Paula Kuzeja at pkuzeja@rich227.org). The district primarily uses text, email and direct mail to communicate with families, and we must ensure we have the correct email address, mailing address and phone number on file in PowerSchool.

This rest of the correspondence is to communicate important information regarding our hybrid and remote learning plans, food service and more. Please read the following communication in its entirety for additional updates.

Fall 2020 Reopening Plan and 2020-21 Remote Learning Plan

Classes are scheduled to resume on Monday, August 24.

Our staff is planning for a hybrid learning model that allows for Rich Township High School to have some students learning in school while others are learning at home, alternating between the two groups on a scheduled basis. Once the hybrid schedule is implemented, students will be assigned to either Group A (in-person instruction on Mondays and Tuesdays) or Group B (in-person instruction on Wednesdays and Thursdays). Students who need intensive support services will be placed in both groups to maximize in-person instruction. Fridays will be remote learning days for all students and staff.

Families will have the option to have students stay at home and learn remotely until January 2021 instead of participating in any in-person instruction.

In this hybrid learning scenario, students who elect the remote learning option will attend all classes remotely while students who elect the hybrid learning option will attend those same

classes both in-person and remotely. The district will provide all students in need with a Chromebook and a cellphone with hotspot capabilities to complete remote learning instruction and assignments. Parents must elect to participate in in-person or remote learning instruction while completing registration and enrollment.

Schedule

Students will attend integration and orientation on specific days. Please see the calendar below to see what the first four weeks of school will look like:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 8/24	FRESHMEN (A) SOPHOMORE (A)	FRESHMEN (A) SOPHOMORE (A)	FRESHMEN (B) SOPHOMORE (B)	FRESHMEN (B) SOPHOMORE (B)	ALL REMOTE LEARNING BUILDING CLOSED DEEP CLEANING
Week 2 8/31	JUNIOR (A) SENIOR (A)	JUNIOR (A) SENIOR (A)	JUNIOR (B) SENIOR (B)	JUNIOR (B) SENIOR (B)	ALL REMOTE LEARNING BUILDING CLOSED DEEP CLEANING
Week 3 9/7	HOLIDAY NO SCHOOL	A DAY ALL GRADES	B DAY ALL GRADES	B DAY ALL GRADES	ALL REMOTE LEARNING BUILDING CLOSED DEEP CLEANING
Week 4 9/14	A DAY ALL GRADES	A DAY ALL GRADES	B DAY ALL GRADES	B DAY ALL GRADES	ALL REMOTE LEARNING BUILDING CLOSED DEEP CLEANING

Our students will progressively return to school to get used to new safety guidelines, a new schedule and a new building, for some. We wish all students could return to classes at the same time, but ultimately there is no way to this safely based on the population of our student body. My biggest hope is to establish a sense of normalcy during the school year that continues to prioritize the health, safety and success of our students.

Safety Precautions

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has released guidance for schools to safely reopen this fall and continue to develop guidance as new scientific information is made available. We are requiring our students, staff and visitors to adhere to specific guidelines should we reopen schools this fall, which can be read below:

Masks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Students, staff and visitors are required to wear a mask upon building entry. Students and staff are encouraged to bring their own masks. If students or staff do not have a mask, a reusable/disposable mask will be provided. **Visitors will**

not be allowed on campus without a mask. Additionally, hand sanitizer stations will be placed throughout the building.

Cleaning - All classrooms and offices will be cleaned daily. Classrooms will be disinfected during the day when space is not in use. Restrooms will be cleaned multiple times per day. Large group areas will be cleaned and misted daily. Deep cleaning will occur every Friday for during remote learning.

Social Distancing - Floor markings will be placed in high traffic areas. Signage will be placed throughout the building to remind students and staff about social distancing. Classroom desks will be marked for proper spacing.

For more information on this plan, I encourage you to read it [here](#) as it offers a more detailed look at our safety measures and plans for technology, food service and transportation. We will be hosting an online parent informational and training session to review the Fall 2020 Reopening Plan and 2020-2021 Remote Learning Plan on **Wednesday, July 29, at 1:00 pm**. The meeting will be recorded and available on the district website for parents who are unable to attend.

Enrollment Information

For new students, including freshmen and transfer students, in-person enrollment began this week at the STEM Campus, and will continue until **July 30**. All incoming freshmen and new students must complete online registration before their in-person enrollment appointment. This week, we emailed unique “Snapcodes” and instructions to our returning sophomore, junior and senior students which enables them to complete online registration.

[Click here for additional registration information for new and returning students.](#)

Ronald McDonald Care Mobile (RMCM)

We want to assist our families during these trying times. District 227 has partnered with the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile to ensure our students have access to free medical services before returning to school. Simply complete the application to receive physicals and immunizations free of charge. Parents do not have to be present. Parents may also call and register for the RMCM by phone at (847) 723-7358. You will be asked to schedule an appointment for one of the dates listed below.

Mobile days are scheduled for **July 29 (Fine Arts and Communications), August 13 (STEM), August 27 (Fine Arts and Communications)** and **September 10 (STEM), from 9:00am – 1:00pm**. Remember to fill out your application form 10 days prior to attending.

[Click here to complete consent forms](#)

Food Service

The last day for meal service is Monday, July 27. The food service department staff must begin to prepare for in-person instruction. Meals will be provided to all Rich Township High

School students and families, Monday, July 27, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Rich East High School.

Meals will be distributed at Rich East High School ONLY. Meals will not be served at the STEM and Fine Arts and Communications campuses.

Please use the driveway off Westwood Drive in front of the school. You do not need to exit your car; the food will be brought to you.

[Click here for additional food service resources.](#)

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

We are excited to introduce the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) to our families and students for the 2020-2021 school year! Under the guidelines of the CEP all students will automatically receive free breakfast and free lunch on a daily basis at school.

[Click here to learn more](#)

We will continue to monitor the status of COVID-19 cases in our community and assess our capability to reopen schools safely following the guidance of state and federal health officials. Our staff has worked hard to develop a plan that is flexible and sympathetic to the shifting circumstances we have encountered. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we fine-tune our plans as new information becomes available.

You may also follow us on social media:

- Facebook: @District227 @richtownships
- Twitter: @District227 @DrJohnnieThomas @richtownships
- Instagram: @district227_ @richtownships
- Superintendent's Message on our district website:
<http://www.rich227.org/SuperintendentsMessage.aspx>
- Illinois State Board of Education: <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/covid19.aspx>

Please stay safe, strong and healthy. As always, thank you for your patience, support, understanding, compassion and commitment to our students.

Respectfully,

Dr. Johnnie Thomas
Superintendent