



"Focused on Students and Student Success"

20550 SOUTH CICERO AVENUE
MATTESON, IL 60443
TEL: 708/679-5800
FAX: 708/679-5733
WWW.RICH227.ORG

June 21, 2020

Dear Rich Township Families,

I hope your summer is off to a great start! At Rich Township High Schools, our staff is currently planning for the transition from three individual schools to one school with two campuses – STEM (Rich Central) and Fine Arts and Communications (Rich South). Our athletic spaces, classrooms, bathrooms and other common areas are transforming day-by-day as construction teams work to upgrade our facilities to 21st century standards. In addition to the changes being made to our facilities, I would like to share information about our plans to adjust our mascot from the Rich Township *Raiders* to Rich Township *Raptors*, which is explained in greater detail in the video below.

[Click here to watch the June 21 video message.](#)

This correspondence is to communicate important information regarding enrollment, AP testing and more. Please read the following communication in its entirety for additional updates.

Enrollment Information

For new students, including freshmen and transfer students, enrollment will be in-person by appointment only during the month of July. The link to schedule your enrollment appointment will be shared next week.

For returning students, additional information for online enrollment will be shared as it becomes available.

Physicals: Incoming freshmen and rising senior students are required to have current physicals and immunizations as part of the enrollment process. Families are encouraged to make doctor appointments prior to starting the enrollment process.

As we mail out important information and documents for the upcoming school year, we are urging the families of our returning students who have not updated their address within the last two years to **contact your building no later than July 1 to update this information**. Building staff will be reaching out to every family by phone and email that has had any mail returned to the district office last school year. These families must verify residency and update their address by **July 1 in-person only**.

If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact the campus registrars at:

**STEM (formerly Rich Central)
708-679-5635
Fine Arts & Communications (formerly Rich South)
708-679-3098**

Incoming Freshman Enrollment Intention Form

For the past two weeks, we have asked the families of our incoming freshmen to confirm their intentions to enroll at Rich Township High School District 227 for the 2020-21 school year [by completing the Freshmen Intention Form](#).

We have extended the deadline to complete the form till Wednesday, June 24.

Please take one minute or less to complete our survey. Your feedback is valuable to us and will help ensure we have the necessary data to provide your child with a high-quality learning experience.

REMINDER: All parents of incoming freshmen are required to complete the Freshmen Intention Form.

[Click here to complete the freshmen intention form](#)

Please fill out the survey by Wednesday, June 24. Your partnership in this effort is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Office of Educational Services at 708-679-5872.

AP Testing Information

We understand that many students may have experienced technical difficulties during their AP Exam. Students who requested an exception exam, had a problem with the exam submission during the makeup testing window or had a problem with their exam submission during the primary testing window but didn't retest during the makeup testing window are eligible to sit for an exam during the exception testing window (June 22–30). These students will be receiving emails this week confirming their registration status and will be emailed a new E-ticket two days before each exception exam.

If students sent responses that can't be scored via the backup email submission option, College Board will notify these students this week that they should retest during the exception window.

Please ensure your student is checking his or her email regularly for updates from the College Board.

EMT Program

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has approved Prairie State College's plan for students in the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program to complete the ride-along portion of their program this summer. All Rich Township High School students who were dually enrolled in the EMT program at Prairie State College are eligible to participate. We are excited about this opportunity for our students to complete their training.

Student participation in the ride-along portion of the program is optional.

Food Service

We will serve five days' worth of breakfasts and lunches every Monday in June. Meals will continue to be provided to all Rich Township High School students and families, **Monday, June 22, 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 Rich Central and Rich South High School 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)

Our Food Service Department is 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, regardless of their family's financial situation. We feel this new provision will help relieve the financial stress for some of our families that did not qualify for meal benefits in the past and had to struggle to provide funding for breakfast and lunch. We are hoping to see a large increase in our breakfast participation as parents and students realize that fueling our bodies with morning nutrition leads to better learning, better concentration and better attitudes. There will no longer be any meal applications to be filled out by parents and students will simply use their ID cards, as they have in the past, to access the free breakfast and lunch in the school cafeterias. The CEP program is offered to qualifying school districts that participate in the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact Betsy Williams, Coordinator of Food Service at 708-679-5728 or bwilliams@rich227.org.

[Click here to learn more about the Community Eligibility Provision](#)

As we begin to settle into summer vacation, I would like to remind you that we are planning for a number of scenarios under which schools can reopen in the fall. While there is much uncertainty at this time as far as how that will look, I would like to assure you that we are working to deliver our students the high-quality learning experience they deserve while maintaining the health and safety of our students and staff.

We will be working to keep you updated in the coming weeks regarding registration, construction and information as it relates to next year's transition to a one-school, two-campus model.

You may also follow us on social media:

- Facebook: @District227
- Twitter: @District227 @DrJohnnieThomas
- Instagram: @district227_
- Resource Hub: COVID-19 resource hub on our district website: <http://www.rich227.org/COVID-19Updates.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