



New Charter School Will Be Funded AT THE EXPENSE OF District 227 Students And Budget

The new Charter School will have a destructive financial impact on all current District 227 High Schools.

The Charter School will remove funds already allocated to Rich East, Rich Central and Rich South High Schools. Together, they serve all, or portions of, the following communities: Chicago Heights, Country Club Hills, Matteson, Olympia Fields, Park Forest, Richton Park, Tinley Park, and University Park. This reduction of funds to District 227 will result in cutbacks to staffing, programs, athletics and activities for all students, and will have a negative impact on the district's historically strong financial position.

Current Financial Strength of District 227	Financial Impact After the Charter School
\$35 Million Fund Balance	<i>The current \$35 M Fund Balance gained through prudent financial planning and management will be depleted. The Illinois State Board of Education has projected that the impact of the Charter School and the present economic conditions in the State will render District 227 financially at risk within five years of the start of the Charter School.</i>
\$14,569 Per Capita Allotment Per Student	<i>The Charter School will begin with an initial enrollment of 125 students in year one, adding an additional 125 students each year until the 500-student enrollment cap is reached. This will force District 227 to pay \$7.5 M annually to the Charter School.</i>
NO Increase In Residential Property Taxes	<i>Property taxes may need to be increased to offset revenue loss to District 227 as a result of the Charter School.</i>
NO Programming Cuts	<i>Programming cuts to curriculum offerings, school activities, athletics, and extra-curricular programs will be necessary to offset the revenue loss because of the Charter School.</i>
NO Cuts To Staff	<i>Staffing reductions will be necessary to offset the revenue loss to District 227 as a result of the Charter School.</i>
Serving students since 1952. District 227 consistently demonstrates financial responsibility to its citizens. maintains solvency. earns financial excellence awards	<i>The District will be in a negative financial status and, as a result, placed on the State Financial Watch List, which will require severe cutbacks to all educational services.</i>

Based on financial deficiencies of the State of Illinois, District 227 is expected to see a dramatic reduction in its fund balances. Accordingly, the implementation of a Charter School will only compound the existing issues, speeding the decline in revenues and resulting losses to District 227. (Estimates based on current economic conditions.)

To voice your opposition to the Charter School, please contact your State Senator, State Representative, and Superintendent of the Illinois State Board of Education:

STATE SUPERINTENDENT Chris Koch...statesup@isbe.net
Illinois State Board of Education: 217.782.4321

STATE SENATOR Maggie Crotty...19th District...Sencrotty19@aol.com
Local: 708.687.9696 -or- Springfield: 217.782.9595

STATE SENATOR Toi Hutchinson...40th District...Senatortoi@gmail.com
Local: 708.756.0882 -or- Springfield: 217.782.7419

STATE REPRESENTATIVE Al Riley...38th District
Rep.riley38@sbcglobal.net
Local: 708.799.4364 -or- Springfield: 217.558.1007

STATE REPRESENTATIVE Anthony DeLuca...80th District
repdeluca@sbcglobal.net
Local: 708.672.0200 -or- Springfield: 217.782.1719

State of Illinois \$14.5 Billion Budget Deficit	Financial Impact on District 227
\$1.4 B Loss to Education	\$2.5 M Expected Loss to District 227
Currently, the State is 140 days behind in payments to Illinois School Districts	\$1.3 M Expected Loss to District 227

SONYA NORWOOD

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF EDUCATION



For five years, Mr. Howard Hunigan has faithfully and dutifully served the students of this district and the members of this community as Superintendent.

Under his leadership, we have made significant progress towards the goals of student achievement, an improved learning community and a more connected external learning community.

Mr. Hunigan's vision and his passion were the hallmarks of his tenure and we thank him for his tireless service. At the same time, we welcome Dr. Donna Simpson Leak in her capacity as our new Superintendent and the energy and commitment she brings to the office.

We are confident that she will bring a level of dedication and a vision for the future that will lead us to greater heights and new levels of excellence. As Board President, I look forward to the next chapter in the history of Rich Township.

HOW TO USE BOARDDOCS

From our website: www.rich227.org

- Click Board of Education from list on the right
- Click Board Docs from drop-down menu
- Click the Date of the meeting you want -OR-
- Click on Select an Agenda to Print
- Click on the Date you want

You may view Board Policies or Meeting Minutes

Look inside for a report on the impact of the Charter School on District 227

RICH TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 227
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A conversation with Superintendent Howard Hunigan

What accomplishments are you most proud of during your time at District 227?

I am most proud of our gains in student achievement. Over the last two years, we've seen a 17.3% growth in the District's overall performance as measured by the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE).

Also, I am very proud of the advancements we've made in technology and the integration of technological innovation into our curriculum. Our student-based management system has helped us become more efficient and to communicate more effectively and consistently with parents. I am pleased that we've been able to renovate, upgrade and improve each of our three buildings, providing state-of-the-art facilities for our well-deserving students. In addition, during my tenure as Superintendent, the District's financial condition has remained strong. And I am also delighted that we have been able to create our Education Foundation, which will serve the needs of our students for generations to come.

What are your plans after you retire?

I plan to do a bit of traveling, become more involved with my church and spend more time with my family.

What was the best part about your role?

The best part of being Superintendent was getting to know our students, working with our

families and building ties with members of our communities. I had the opportunity to witness the progress that this District has made, and continues to make, in becoming a district of excellence.

What will you miss the most?

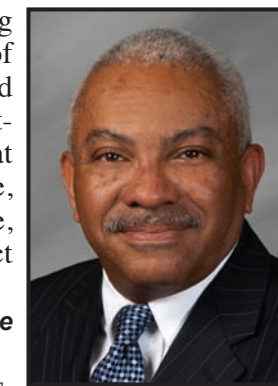
I will miss students, interacting with them, watching their growth, and their progress, and being part of their achievement.

Will you still be involved with District 227?

I live in this community and the District will remain important to me. I want to continue to be a part of its growth, and will continue to be a member of the Education Foundation and to look for other ways to support our schools.

Do you have any words of advice for the new Superintendent?

My advice would be to develop the vision and to work hard in getting the entire community involved in meeting our collective goals. The incoming Superintendent should focus on improving relationships, particularly between the District, political leaders and community groups.



Congratulations to our College-Bound Evening School Graduates!

This year, 33 graduates of the Evening School program enrolled in four-year colleges, 43 went on to two-year colleges, six entered the military, and two went into full-time employment.

With a 91% graduation rate, Evening School offers a small, supportive and caring community to meet the needs of individual students. Sophomores, juniors and seniors are recommended for Evening School by administrators or counselors. Students must adhere to the same graduation requirements of District 227, as described in the District Curriculum Handbook.

All classes are held at Rich South High School, Monday through Thursday, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., with instruction provided through the *NovaNet* online learning system as well as teacher-directed instruction. Transportation is also provided. **Outstanding Job Graduates!**



The MESSAGES

Community members welcome Dr. Leak as Superintendent

Dear District 227 Families, Friends and Communities,

It is with great enthusiasm and passion that I embrace the role of Superintendent for Rich Township High School District 227. For more than 20 years, I have worked in the field of education—preparing, training, working, building and leading, to ensure that our children, your children, achieve the potential that is within each of them. We have made great strides during my tenure with District 227 and we are working harder to continue our journey towards excellence. Some of our recent accolades include:

- State / national recognition for improved test scores
- Rich East named by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of America's Best High Schools
- Curriculum alignment to College Readiness Standards
- An intense year-long ACT preparatory curriculum
- Implementation of SMART goals to all curriculum: (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Results-Oriented and Time-Bound)

- More than \$1 million annually in grant monies
- Millions in scholarships and awards for our seniors
- Major renovations and upgrades to all of our schools

I am looking forward to working alongside the Board of Education, administrators, staff, parents, students, business leaders, elected officials and local educators to ensure that, collaboratively, we maximize the potential of our student body. I invite you to become involved as a Superintendent's Advisory Council Member, or as a Rich Township Ambassador. More information can be found in the following story, or at www.rich227.org.

Sincerely, Donna Simpson Leak, Superintendent



Dr. Leak (above, center) greets community members at a reception in her honor at Rich South. Below, Dr. Leak and former Superintendent Howard Hunigan (right) are shown with Janee Spruille of Richton Park, who graduated in May from Rich South. Janee was on the program at the welcome reception, choosing to read an inspirational poem.



Parents, students, staff, community and business leaders, show your support of District 227: become a member of the Rich Township Ambassadors or the Superintendent's Advisory Council

Six Advisory Councils will be developed to meet with the Superintendent on a quarterly basis. The input of the councils will serve as a valuable resource to aid the Superintendent in strategic planning and implementation. As a result, stakeholders will be kept abreast of developments within the District.

The six Councils will consist of: 1) Student Advisory; 2) Staff Advisory; 3) Parent Advisory; 4) Community Advisory; 5) Business Advisory; and 6) Local Educators' Advisory.

If you would like to be considered for membership on a council, and are a student, staff member or parent, please contact your principal. If you are a community member or local educator, please contact your mayor.

There will be an informational meeting at the District Office on Wednesday, August 11, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

Rich Township Ambassadors will serve as supporters of District 227 during our semi-monthly Board meetings.

Ambassadors will help during the sign-in process at Board meetings, distribute agendas and recruit others who are prospective ambassadors before and after the Board meetings. The group is open to students, parents, staff and faculty members, or community members.

To sign up, or for more information, send an E-mail to ambassadors@rich227.org. Please include your name and contact information. There will be an informational meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office.



"Class Of 2014" ~ Welcome to Rich High ~ the Total School Experience

WELCOME Freshman Olympians!



WELCOME Freshman Rockets!



WELCOME Freshman Stars!



Rich Township High School District 227.....Created to Serve All Students

As an incoming freshman student, we welcome you to District 227 and the new and exciting opportunities that are ahead. Students at our three full-service High Schools enjoy an array of academic and extra-curricular opportunities for a full and rewarding educational experience.

Table with 2 columns: Category (e.g., Small Class Sizes, Freshman Academies) and Description.

Table with 3 columns: FRESHMAN ACADEMIC OFFERINGS, CORE COURSES, ELECTIVES, and EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES OPEN TO FRESHMEN.

CONGRATULATIONS ~ DISTRICT 227 SCHOLARS*

- List of student names and their respective scholarships, organized by region: RICH EAST, RICH SOUTH, and RICH CENTRAL.



Congratulations...Keeping Up With Rich High Alumni and Scholars



Rich East Class of 2010 Park Forest twins Andrew (L.) and Matt Phillips each earned a Chick-Evans Scholarship for Full Tuition.



Rich South Class of 2010 Ryan O'Donnell of Matteson earned the SECME / Exxon Mobil Overall Scholar Award.



Rich Central Class of 2008 Jonathon Clyde Neal specializes in playing the Trumpet as a Music Education major attending Howard University.

Rich South Class of 2007

Marcus Johnson of Matteson is attending Tuskegee University; Pre-Pharmacy Biology and Business Administration are his majors.



Rich East Class of 2009

Jasmine Murphy of Park Forest attends Howard University, with a double major in Mathematics and Actuarial Science.

Table listing Rich High alumni and scholars with columns for Name, University, and Graduation Year.

*List of scholarships available at press time ~ Class of 2010