



RICH TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 227

20550 South Cicero Avenue

Matteson, Illinois 60443

708-679-5800 * www.rich227.org

July 17, 2021

Dear Rich Township Families,

Dr. Johnnie Thomas
Superintendent
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Dr. Alicia Evans
Assistant Superintendent
Of Business and
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aevans@rich227.org

Dr. Stephen Bournés
Assistant Superintendent
Of Educational Services
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Dr. Kim Echols
Assistant Superintendent
Of Human Resources
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Mr. Larry Varn
Principal
lvarn@rich227.org

We are less than one month away from the first day of school and I am very excited to unveil many of the changes we've made to our campuses to ensure our students, staff and community are safe and healthy when we return. As we prepare to return to in-person learning on **Wednesday, August 11**, renovations are currently underway at our buildings to improve our roofing and air ventilation systems. With the first day of school approaching, families will have one more opportunity to register their students if they were unable to register in June. The district will offer late registration to families on **Tuesday, July 20, and Wednesday, July 21 from 9 am – noon and 12:45 pm – 3 pm at District Office**, located at 20550 South Cicero Ave, Matteson, IL 60443, on both days. Registration for transfer students will be held on **Tuesday, July 27, and Wednesday, July 28 from 8 am – 3 pm at District Office**. Parent should be prepared to provide their proof of residency documents as well as the required medical documents. Please take these next couple of weeks to relax and recharge as we prepare for the return to school!

Read more to learn important information regarding our return to school, Virtual AP Boot Camp and more. Please read the following communication in its entirety for additional updates.

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

Return to School

The district will return to full in-person instruction on **Wednesday, August 11**.

On **August 11 through August 13**, orientation will occur for all students who attend the Fine Arts and Communications and STEM campuses. Freshmen and sophomores will attend orientation from **8 am - 11 am**, and juniors and seniors will attend orientation from **noon - 3 pm**. Students who attend the Transition Center will attend school daily **from 8 am – noon on August 11 through August 30**.

On **August 16 through August 20**, all juniors and seniors will report to school for in-person instruction while freshmen and sophomore engage in remote instruction. On **August 23 through August 27**, all freshmen and sophomores will report to school for in-person instruction while juniors and seniors remain at home

for remote instruction. On **August 30**, all grade levels will begin to report to school daily for full in-person instruction.

AP Boot Camp

We are excited about our students who will be attending Virtual AP Boot Camp on **Monday, July 26 through Thursday, July 29**. The last day for registered students to pick up their swag bags will be **Thursday, July 22 from 8 am - 3 pm at District Office**.

If you have any questions regarding Virtual AP Boot Camp, please contact Mr. Jeff Bonomo at (708) 679-5715 or email at jbonomo@rich227.org.

Summer School Graduation

The Class of 2021 Summer School Graduation will be held on **Wednesday, July 28 at District Office**. There will be two ceremonies:

1. Students whose last name begins with A- M will participate in the 5:30 – 6:30 pm ceremony.
2. Students whose last name begins with N-Z will participate in the 7 – 8 pm ceremony.

Each graduate will be allowed to have two guests. Graduates should arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony to line up for the processional.

If you have any questions regarding Summer School Graduation, please email Ms. Wright at dwright@rich227.org.

Other Class of 2021 Information

Graduates who are looking for their graduation day picture proofs can visit <https://www.gradimages.com/> to view them.

You can access proofs in the following ways:

1. Type in your last name, school, and graduation year.
2. Call the Customer Service Department at (800) 261-2576.
3. Email ecc.giservice@gradimages.net.

They have a large team of customer care representatives ready to help graduates and family members with anything they may need.

Diplomas will be mailed out **the week of July 26** to graduates who have not already picked them up.

Brick Fundraiser

Construction is underway on our new football stadium and track at the Fine Arts and Communications campus. To finalize the project, we are offering a chance for families, both old and new, an opportunity to purchase a Legacy brick to lay in the entry way of the stadium.

[Click here to purchase a Legacy brick](#)

You will need to register for an account through the online platform. Once you have purchased a brick you will need to access the Google form link to submit your text that will go on your brick. You will receive a confirmation email with a sample brick image.

Please use the “Contact Us” link on the website if you have any questions.

Athletics

Due to the construction at both campuses, some summer camps will be off site this year. Once summer camps are finalized it will be posted on the [Athletic section](#) of our website, along with a map of drop-off and pick-up locations.

All participants must register for summer camps by visiting the [8to18 Registration page](#). If you have any questions regarding the summer camps, please contact the program head coach.

Boys/Girls Soccer

Coach Grigsby - rgrigsby@rich227.org

Coach Clark - aclark@rich227.org

Football

Coach Middlebrook - cmiddlebrook@rich227.org

Girls Volleyball

Coach Polensky - apolensky@rich227.org

Boys/Girls Cross Country

Coach Stanko - dstanko@rich227.org

Coach Pfeiffer - bpfeiffer@rich2227.org

Boys Basketball

Coach Crossley - ccrossley@rich227.org

Girls Basketball

Coach Mays – bmays@dist159.com

Baseball

Coach Stallings - cstallings@rich227.org

Softball

Coach Data - mdata@rich227.org

Band

Director Crews - pcrews@rich227.org

Dance

Coach Lusby - rlusby@rich227.org

Transportation

Summer school transportation information is posted on the transportation section of the website.

[Click here to view transportation information](#)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Matthew Shank, Director of Transportation at mshank@rich227.org or (708) 679-5727.

Food Service

The Rich Township High School District 227 Food Distribution Program has come to an end. Any families who are interested in finding alternate sites that will be serving food this summer for all children up to 18 years of age can **call 800-359-2163 or text “FoodIL” to 877877** to get further information. We thank all the families that participated in curbside pickup over the past school year for your support!

For more information, visit www.rich227.org, call 708-679-5728, or email bwilliams@rich227.org

Summer P-EBT

What is Summer P-EBT?

Summer P-EBT is a continuation of the P-EBT currently being issued to eligible students to provide financial support to eligible students and families to purchase food for children for the summertime. Students and their schools do not need to participate in a summer school program to receive Summer P-EBT, but we encourage students and families to continue to participate in summer meal distribution sites in their area. The [USDA Food Finder](#) is a great resource to locate nearby open meal service sites.

Who is eligible for Summer P-EBT?

Summer P-EBT is for all students enrolled at the end of the 2020 – 2021 school year regardless of if they were eligible for any 2020 – 2021 school year P-EBT benefits that also meet the following criteria:

- Enrolled in a [P-EBT eligible school](#)
- Qualify to receive free or reduced-price meals (meeting socioeconomic requirements) or is enrolled in a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school

How much is Summer P-EBT and how will benefits be provided to families?

Summer P-EBT is a standard amount per student equal to approximately 55 summer days, thus the summer P-EBT benefit will be \$375 per eligible student. The Summer P-EBT benefits, should a student qualify, will be loaded on to the existing student specific P-EBT cards issued by DHS this school year.

Thank you for taking the time to read this important information. Feel free to reach out to the appropriate person if you have additional questions.

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>

Your continued support of Rich Township High School District 227 is appreciated and vital to ensure student success.

Respectfully,

Dr. Johnnie Thomas
Superintendent