



## **RICH TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 227**

20550 South Cicero Avenue

Matteson, Illinois 60443

708-679-5800 \* [www.rich227.org](http://www.rich227.org)

July 3, 2021

Dear Rich Township Families,

**Dr. Johnnie Thomas**  
Superintendent  
[jthomas@rich227.org](mailto:jthomas@rich227.org)

**Dr. Alicia Evans**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Of Business and  
Operations  
[aevans@rich227.org](mailto:aevans@rich227.org)

**Dr. Stephen Bournés**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Of Educational Services  
[sbournes@rich227.org](mailto:sbournes@rich227.org)

**Dr. Kim Echols**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Of Human Resources  
[kechols@rich227.org](mailto:kechols@rich227.org)

**Mr. Larry Varn**  
Principal  
[lvarn@rich227.org](mailto:lvarn@rich227.org)

I truly hope you have enjoyed this long weekend and took time to rest, refresh and spend time with your family and friends. We are officially at the halfway mark for our summer programs. We started the second session of summer school last week as well as the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program. The district will observe the Independence Day Holiday on **Monday, July 5**. All summer programs will resume **Tuesday, July 6**, including the start of the second session for the Freshmen on Track summer program.

Read more to learn important information regarding our stakeholder working groups, our plans to return to school and more. Please read the following communication in its entirety for additional updates.

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

### **Stakeholder Working Groups**

The first stakeholder working group meetings for Academic Rigor, Organizational Climate and Communication are scheduled for **Thursday, July 22 at 1 pm**. The meetings will be held on Zoom. The Zoom links will be sent to those who have signed up.

Thank you to those that have signed up to participate in stakeholder working groups. If you are interested in participating but did not get the chance to sign up last week, please [CLICK HERE](#) to complete the interest form.

### **Return to School**

As we prepare to return to full in-person instruction in the fall, we are planning several activities for our new and returning students to transition them from remote and hybrid learning. On **August 11 through August 13**, orientation will occur for all students. Freshmen and sophomores will attend orientation from **8 am to 11 am**, and juniors and seniors will attend orientation from **noon to 3 pm**.

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.

Please see the return to school schedule below:

### August 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9 Institute Day	10 Institute Day	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:00-11:00: Freshman/Sophomore Orientation</li> <li>• 12:00-3:00: Junior/Senior Orientation</li> </ul>	12	13
16	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Freshman/Sophomore Remote Instruction</li> <li>• Junior/Senior In-Person Instruction</li> </ul>	18	19	20
23	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Freshman/Sophomore In-Person Instruction</li> <li>• Junior/Senior Remote Instruction</li> </ul>	25	26	27
30 All Grade Levels				

This schedule will afford our students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with their schedule, acclimate to a new building, and adjust to being back in school.

### **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](mailto:rgrigsby@rich227.org)

Coach Clark - [aclark@rich227.org](mailto:aclark@rich227.org)

### **Football**

Coach Middlebrook - [cmiddlebrook@rich227.org](mailto:cmiddlebrook@rich227.org)

### **Girls Volleyball**

Coach Polensky - [apolensky@rich227.org](mailto:apolensky@rich227.org)

### **Boys/Girls Cross Country**

Coach Stanko - [dstanko@rich227.org](mailto:dstanko@rich227.org)

Coach Pfeiffer - [bpfeiffer@rich227.org](mailto:bpfeiffer@rich227.org)

### **Boys Basketball**

Coach Crossley - [ccrossley@rich227.org](mailto:ccrossley@rich227.org)

### **Girls Basketball**

Coach Mays – [bmays@dist159.com](mailto:bmays@dist159.com)

### **Baseball**

Coach Stallings - [cstallings@rich227.org](mailto:cstallings@rich227.org)

### **Softball**

Coach Data - [mdata@rich227.org](mailto:mdata@rich227.org)

### **Band**

Director Crews - [pcrews@rich227.org](mailto:pcrews@rich227.org)

### **Dance**

Coach Lusby - [rlusby@rich227.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.rich227.org), call 708-679-5728, or email [bwilliams@rich227.org](mailto: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