



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

20550 South Cicero Avenue  
Matteson, Illinois 60443

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

July 31, 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)

With less than two weeks left until we welcome our students back this fall, I have some very important reminders and information for you. To begin with, the first day of school is **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 on **August 11 through August 30** from **8 am – noon**.

[Click here to view the August 2021 calendar](#)

Read more to learn important information regarding student IDs, safety measures we've put in place and more. Please read the following communication in its entirety for additional updates.

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

### **Student IDs and Technology Distribution**

All students will be required to take a new ID picture. Only students who have completed the registration process for the 2021-2022 school year will be issued a device and allowed to take their ID picture. Students will take their picture at their home campus from **8 am – 3 pm** according to the following schedule:

- Freshmen - **Monday, August 2**
- Sophomores - **Tuesday, August 3**
- Juniors - **Wednesday, August 4**
- Seniors - **Thursday, August 5**

Students at the STEM campus will enter at Door 1/Main Entrance. Students at the Fines Arts campus will enter at Door D20/Cafeteria. Students will receive their new ID and Rocketbook during Orientation Week (August 11-13).

If you have not competed the registration process, please reach out to your campus registrar:

STEM Campus: Ms. Greta Allen - [gallen@rich227.org](mailto:gallen@rich227.org)

Fine Arts Campus: Ms. Paula Kuzeja - [pkuzeja@rich227.org](mailto:pkuzeja@rich227.org)

**FOCUSED ON STUDENTS AND STUDENT SUCCESS**

## **Face Masks**

In alignment with guidance from health agencies, we are requiring that all students and staff wear a face mask the first ten weeks of school on the bus and on campuses. The district will regularly monitor local COVID-19 cases and other data to evaluate prevention practices in alignment with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and other health agencies' recommendations.

## **COVID-19 Testing Consent Form**

Families should complete the COVID-19 Voluntary Testing Consent & Acknowledgment Form. This allows the district to test students for COVID-19. These forms will be emailed, and there is also a link on the website. The forms can be submitted to the nurse and there will be drop boxes at both campuses.

[Click here to learn more](#)

[Click here to download the consent form](#)

## **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**

Registration is now open for fall sports and activities! Please click on the following link to get signed up for any athletic and/or activities you are interested in joining for the upcoming school year.

[Click here to register](#)

## **Transportation**

The 2021 - 2022 bus routing information is posted on the transportation section of the website.

[Click here to view transportation information](#)

### **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**

News came from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) that they are awaiting confirmation from USDA regarding the Summer P-EBT program and whether the State of Illinois will be authorized to make these payments. We will be watching for more information from ISBE and will continue to post all updates in future communications.

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