



RICH TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 227

20550 South Cicero Avenue
Matteson, Illinois 60443

708-679-5800 * www.rich227.org

June 19, 2021

Dear Rich Township Families,

Dr. Johnnie Thomas
Superintendent
jthomas@rich227.org

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

I hope all of our families are enjoying summer vacation. As some of you may know, the district will be opening a Transition Center next school year. This program will help guide our diverse learners and students with disabilities to lead a life of purpose and enrichment by teaching them important life skills that extend far beyond the classroom. The program is intended to support our young adults by providing vocational training, help with building relationships in the community and assist with daily living and personal hygiene. Our goal is to empower all of our students to become independent, productive members of our community and have true confidence in their personal, social and professional lives and connections, and we believe that our Transition Center will do just that. We're very excited to offer this opportunity to our students and we'll keep you updated with more information as we approach opening day.

Read more to learn important information regarding our registration, diploma pick-up and more. Please read the following communication in its entirety for additional updates.

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

Registration

In-person registration continues next week for 2021 – 2022 school year at the District Office (located at 20550 South Cicero Avenue). Please remember all incoming freshmen and seniors must complete registration in-person to verify residency and submit medical documents.

Completed physicals, immunizations, and proof of residency are required for your in-person appointment. **If your student has not yet had their physical, you must present an appointment card or letter at enrollment.**

The next registration dates are as follows:

- **Thursday, June 24** from 10 am – 1 pm & 3 pm - 7 pm
- **Saturday, June 26** from 9 am - 12 pm & 12:45 pm – 3 pm

Late registration dates are as follows:

- **Tuesday, July 20** from **9 am – 12 pm & 12:45 pm - 3 pm**
- **Wednesday, July 21** from **9 am – 12 pm & 12:45 pm – 3 pm**

If you have any questions, please contact your campus registrar:

STEM Campus: Greta Allen – gallen@rich227.org

Fine Arts & Communications Campus: Paula Kuzeja – pkuzeja@rich227.org

Diploma Pick Up

The Class of 2021 can pick up their diplomas at Rich East High School until **Tuesday, July 22** from **8 am – noon**. We want to thank the families of our graduating seniors for your patience and understanding.

Stakeholder Working Groups

Parents and students are invited to participate in stakeholder working groups as the district addresses the priorities that emerged from our stakeholder focus groups. We need student and parent representation (three to four each) for all three of the working groups:

1. **Academic Rigor** - to address how the district will improve the quality of instruction and increase real-world learning experiences
2. **Organizational Climate** - to address student engagement, employee morale, sense of community, student behavior, and social-emotional and physical well-being
3. **Communication** - to address improving internal and external communication

If you are interested in participating in one of these working groups which will meet throughout the school year, starting in July, please [CLICK HERE](#) to complete the interest 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

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@rich227.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

Dance

Coach Lusby – rlusby@rich227.org

Band

Director Crews - pcrews@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