



RICH TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 227

20550 South Cicero Avenue
Matteson, Illinois 60443

708-679-5800 * www.rich227.org

June 26, 2021

Dear Rich Township Families,

I hope you have been enjoying your summer so far. The students in our summer programs have been working hard since they began, and this past week concluded the first session of summer school. The second session of summer school starts next week, **Monday, June 28**, along with our three-week International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Summer Program.

Read more to learn important information regarding our summer programs, AP course opportunities and more. Please read the following communication in its entirety for additional updates.

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

Summer Programs

IB-MYP Summer Program

The IB-MYP Summer Program is open to all freshmen and sophomore students who are in the IB program. For more information, please contact, Janice Wells, Director of Fine Arts and International Baccalaureate at jwells@rich227.org

Summer School - Session 2

If you haven't registered for the second session of summer school, please do so by **Monday, June 28**.

[Click here to register for summer school](#)

The district will observe Independence Day on **Monday, July 5**. There will be no summer school programs offered that day. The second session for Freshmen on Track will start **Tuesday, July 6**, and run until **Thursday, July 22**.

Summer School Graduation

Summer school graduation for the Class of 2021 will take place on **Wednesday, July 28**. We are looking forward to celebrating our seniors on this special occasion!

AP Human Geography

Advanced Placement (AP) Human Geography is an AP social studies course that studies human geography and is a year-long college course for freshmen students. The district is excited to announce that we are offering incoming freshmen the opportunity to take AP Human Geography during the 2021 - 2022 school year. This course is offered in alignment with our district target to increase AP enrollment, meet our target of 50 percent of students taking a minimum of one AP course, and the new graduation requirement that all students must take a course where they can earn a college credit. For more information about this course, [CLICK HERE](#).

Stakeholder Working Groups

Last week, we invited parents and students to participate in stakeholder working groups as the district focuses on addressing the three priorities that emerged from our stakeholder focus 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

Thank you to those who have signed up. 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.

These stakeholder working groups will start meeting in July. A confirmation email will be sent to those who have signed up with meeting dates and times.

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