



RICH TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 227

20550 South Cicero Avenue
Matteson, Illinois 60643
708.679.5716 • www.rich227.org

October 23, 2020

Dear Rich Township Families,

We hope this message finds you well and healthy. Thank you for your constant collaboration as we continue to ensure we are providing the best possible teaching and learning experiences to the young adults at Rich Township High School.

This correspondence is to communicate important information regarding medical compliance, student grading and more. Please read the following communication in its entirety for additional updates.

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

Medical Compliance

As I communicated last week, documentation of required health-related examinations and immunization requirements for students, including applicable exemptions or appointments allowed by law, was required to be filed with school districts by **October 15**. If your student is not compliant with required physicals and immunizations by **November 16**, they will have to remain in remote learning until the required documents are produced. In partnership with the *Ronald McDonald Care Mobile*, we will offer another opportunity for students to take the required physical exams and vaccinations.

- The next date for the *Ronald McDonald Care Mobile* to offer physicals and vaccines will be **Wednesday, November 18**.
- *Ronald McDonald Care Mobile* will also offer an onsite flu clinic on **Tuesday, November 17**.

These resources are free for families. Please fill out your application forms two weeks prior to attending.

[Click here to complete consent forms](#)

Parents may also call **(708) 679-5647** to register for the *Ronald McDonald Care Mobile*.

School Improvement Day

The first School Improvement Day will occur on **Monday, October 26**. This will be a synchronous instruction day and students will follow their schedule. All School Improvement Days will be early dismissal days for students so that our staff can review school improvement goals in order to continue to actualize our mission of focusing on students and student success.

Please see the revised mod schedule below:

MOD	15 min	MOD	15 min
0	7:30	12	10:30
1	7:45	13	10:45
2	8:00	14	11:00
3	8:15	15	11:15
4	8:30	16	11:30
5	8:45	17	11:45
6	9:00	18	12:00
7	9:15	19	12:15
8	9:30	20	12:30
9	9:45	21	12:45
10	10:00	22	1:00
11	10:15	23	1:15

Fall Testing

Testing continues next week for our sophomore, junior and senior students. This will be the final week of All School Testing. Please see the schedule below for specific testing assignments.

Seniors ONLY: If you were unable to attend All School Testing during the initial test dates, a make-up day is available on **Tuesday, October 27**. Any senior who does not take the SAT during the month of October must sit for the assessment on **April 13**. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) reinstated this assessment as a graduation requirement. Seniors who do not sit for the SAT this school year will not be able to earn their diploma at the conclusion of the academic school year.

Test Date	Grade Level	Make-Ups/Accommodations
<u>October 24</u> PSAT 8/9	8th Grade	
<u>October 27</u> SAT	Seniors Last Name M-Z	Make Up Seniors Make Up Accommodations
<u>October 29</u> PSAT NMSQT	Juniors Last Name N-Z All Sophomores	Make Up Juniors Make Up Accommodations Make Up Accommodations

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Please note: Freshmen, sophomore, and junior students who did not sit for the assessments in October will have another opportunity on **April 13** to take the assessment.

Grading

In staying true to our mission to focus on students and student success, the district is implementing several interventions to address student engagement and performance in a remote learning setting including, but not limited to: assigning students to academic labs, Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), recovery camps for freshmen, and amnesty days. In the best educational interest of our students, we will be implementing a cumulative grade for the first semester. This will allow our students to complete assignments they may have missed from the first quarter and will lead to better student outcomes.

Students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the remaining amnesty days, **October 27** and **October 29**, to make up missing work and improve their grade. Students who are not scheduled to test on these dates can make up any missing assignments from the first quarter. Students should check PowerSchool and with their teachers to find out what assignments they are missing. We encourage parents to communicate the importance of amnesty days to their student.

FAFSA Information (Seniors ONLY)

As of October 1, the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* form, which is used to apply for financial aid for college is open. Completing the FAFSA is also a graduation requirement. Seniors should begin working on their FAFSA as soon as possible. If your student or family needs assistance completing the FAFSA, please contact your student's Counselor or the College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) liaison.

Food Service

The Food Service Department is currently providing **five days of FREE breakfast and lunch for any child up to the age of 18 years. Families do not have to live in the community or attend the district schools.** There are no forms to fill out and no income requirements. This program is provided to **ALL** families regardless of their financial situation.

Parents may pick up meals without children being present. Meals are distributed through contactless drive through curbside distribution at both the **STEM** and **Fine Arts and Communications** campuses.

The next scheduled date for meal distribution is **Monday, October 26.**

Please see the important information when picking up meals:

Serving Schedule for the Rest of October:

Every Monday and Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Monday Evenings 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Locations:

Fine Arts and Communications– 5000 Sauk Trail– Richton Park, IL
STEM Campus– 3600 W. 203rd—Olympia Fields, IL

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

WHY PICK UP FREE MEALS FOR YOUR CHILDREN?

- **Healthy meals help fuel student learning.**
- **It is safe and convenient - curbside grab and go!**
- **Meals are varied and provide healthy daily nutrition.**
- **Save time and money on grocery shopping and preparing meals.**
- **Any child up to 18 years of age are eligible for free meals all school year.**
- **Your participation helps support and strengthen the school nutrition program for all children.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

ComEd Hardship Assistance Program

We understand that some of our families and staff may be experiencing financial hardship as a result of the ongoing pandemic. With that in mind, I would like to share bill assistance options available to help those struggling with past-due balances that ComEd is currently offering. ComEd customers can also visit **ComEd.com/Support** to learn more about the following payment assistance options and eligibility requirements:

- ***CARE Customer Hardship Grants.*** Residential customers facing financial hardship may be eligible to receive one-time CARE grants from ComEd to help them get back on their feet.
- ***COVID-19 Financial Bill Assistance.*** A one-time bill assistance credit of up to \$500 is available this year for eligible, low-income households.
- ***Flexible, Extended Payment Arrangements.*** For a limited time, low-income households and residential customers expressing financial hardship may be eligible for a flexible payment arrangement so they can spread balances over 24 payments, with 0% down. Residential customers who may not be facing financial hardship, but would like to spread balances, may be able to do so over 18 payments, with no more than 25% down.
- ***Waiver of New Deposits and Fee Relief.*** ComEd is waiving any new deposit requirements for a limited time for customers expressing financial hardship and extending relief from various fees (such as reconnection fees) to help low-income residential customers.

- ***State and Federal Financial Energy Assistance.*** Illinois' Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) and the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) also provide valuable financial help to households that may be facing financial challenges.

If you or someone you know could benefit from additional support, *please share this information with them and have them call ComEd immediately at 1-800- EDISON1 (1-800-334-7661), Monday-Friday at 7 am – 7 pm.*

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