

Dear Richmond Community High School Families,

Happy Friday! Below you will find important information. Please read over this information and discuss it with your scholar(s). New information is displayed in red.

Updated Information & Reminders:

- Parents please have a conversation with your scholars about vandalizing school property. Scholars are writing inappropriate words on the bathroom walls in the female restrooms. We do not support this behavior, and it is a complete violation of our mission, core values, and legacy.
- Daily attendance is important. We need scholars to be present all day for the instructional impact that is needed to close the academic gaps from virtual to in-person instruction. Late arrivals and early departures negatively impact our efforts to reach every scholar, every day, to ensure their instructional needs are being met.
- Our RCHS Announcements Google Classroom is up for all students that miss our morning meetings. It will house all important information.
- Main Doors open at 8:30 a.m. for students – students that arrive prior to 8:30 a.m. will have to wait outside of the school building until the doors open.
- All students must enter the building with a mask. Students that are not eating breakfast will report directly to their 1st Period class.
- All RTC 1st Period students should report to RCHS each morning and wait in the cafeteria. We will have a Tech bus that will transport them to RTC daily. All RTC 4th Period students will leave RCHS at 2:10 to be transported to Tech. These students will return by 3:45 p.m. to ride their assigned bus home from RCHS.
- We will continue to use yellow and blue arrows to indicate traffic flow throughout the school building. Students should always walk to the right of the building.
- Teachers are required to create and maintain seating charts for all classes. Seating charts will also be submitted to the principal and stored in the main office for contact tracing purposes. Please make your student aware that seating charts are mandatory and once the seat is assigned, students will not be permitted to change their seat.
- We are conducting two lunches. Lunch will take place during 3rd Period classes. Your scholar will be assigned based on their teacher. Our lunch schedule is indicated below:

Lunch A 12:27pm-12:50pm

Lunch B 1:20pm-1:43pm

- Students will be required to social distance in all areas of the school. In classrooms, student desks will all face in one direction, and in common areas, we will have students sit every other seat. We will also have students stagger in these areas to ensure social distancing.
- To visit the school counselor (for example, to request a schedule change), students will be required to request an appointment and then use a sign in/out system to allow contact tracing. We have QR codes posted around the school building for students to use to submit their requests.
- To ensure proper contact tracing, all students will be mandated to use a sign in/sign out system when leaving their classroom (for example, to use the restrooms).
- Students who present with signs/symptoms of infectious illness (including COVID-19) will be separated from other students and staff in a “supportive care space” in an effort to minimize transmission.

- The school nurse will evaluate the student using a Health Assessment form.
- After the initial assessment, the school nurse will continue to follow RPS school-exclusion guidelines for students.
- Family members will be notified of a student's illness to make arrangements for pick-up.
- Supportive care spaces will be disinfected after each use.

Even with careful plans and preparation, cases of COVID-19 may still occur. RPS works in collaboration with, and under the direction of, the Richmond City Health District (RCHD) to perform case investigation and contact tracing of all positive and probable (by test) cases of COVID-19. Plans of action will vary on a case-by-case basis.

- Families/staff should communicate positive COVID-19 cases to RPS. (RPS will also learn of positive cases from VDH). Families and school-based staff should inform their school principal.
- RPS will communicate all confirmed COVID-19 cases to VDH and will begin case investigation.
- Based on case investigation, close contacts (which may be from transportation, class, or other activities) will be identified and contacted by RPS and will be provided with quarantine instructions, as applicable, and advisement on symptom monitoring.
- While the school and RPS communities will be informed of positive cases, student and staff privacy will be maintained.
- RPS will follow VDH guidance, which may, at times, require full-class quarantine or school closure.

Important Dates:

October 15th —School Admissions Process Start

October 22nd —School Picnic

October 19th —SCHOOL PINK OUT!!!!

October 26th —PSAT DAY

November 2nd —RPS Closed (Election Day)

November 4th —RPS Closed (Diwali)

November 5th —Virtual Parent Conference Day (Schools closed for students) Teachers will set up a Sign-Up Genius for you to select a time frame

November 24-26th —RPS Schools Closed for Thanksgiving Break

Highlights:

Kahlo Garrison, class of 2022, has many important roles at our school. She is an artist, an activist, and a strong advocate for the arts. This week, district leadership asked Kahlo to share her experience as an art student in RPS with Mr. Kamras, RPS School Board, and other stakeholders at the Board meeting on Monday, October 18th at 6pm. In addition to introducing herself and detailing her artistic interests and

pursuits, she will be addressing the vital role that visual-arts classes play in the school curriculum. Check out the school board meeting on Monday, please head over to the district's website for details!

School Fundraiser:

It's POPCORN TIME!!! Double Good virtual fundraiser! It's 100% contactless, we keep 50% of the profit, and the product ships directly to the buyer. Prices range from \$18-\$59. The popcorn is award-winning and really delicious! Our fundraising window begins on October 22, 2021, at 8:00pm and goes until October 26, 2021, at 8:00pm.

Before the fundraiser begins, please follow these steps:

1. Download the Double Good app.
2. Enter our Event Code **OZFFSR** in the app.

More info coming soon.....

When you have a moment, please check out the school's website at <https://www.rvaschools.net/RCHS>. All of the information we send via email can also be found on this site, including our weekly newsletter and the school's calendar of events and activities. We hope that you will find our site helpful and informative. Additionally, we have both Facebook (RCHSPharaohs) and Instagram (@rchspharaohs and @principalmassenburg) accounts that we will use to send updates and quick announcements as we go throughout the school year.

In closing, I am so excited we are in-person, and I look forward to a great school year! "Let's make it one to remember—*Achieving Excellence Together: All In, All One, All Pharaohs!*" Please feel free to contact me at (804) 780-4332 or at Kmassenb@rvaschools.net

Your Partner in Education,

Kenya E. Massenburg

Kenya E. Massenburg, Principal