

Friday, October 21, 2022

Happy Friday, Pharaoh Families!

Here is the link (rchs.rvaschools.net/about-us/principals-newsletter) to access our weekly updates. Remember that all new information will be highlighted in **RED**.

RCHS Procedures

- Main Doors open at 8:30am for students – Students that arrive early will have to wait outside of the school building until opening time indicated. All students must enter the building with a mask. Students that are not eating breakfast will report directly to the auditorium for our daily morning meeting. Students that are eating breakfast will report to the cafeteria.
- **RPS has been at the medium or low CDC community level since the beginning of September. Therefore, the updated guidance for COVID-19 makes masks optional for all students and staff both indoors and outdoors.**
- All students will eat lunch together this year. Lunch will take place after 2nd period classes. Lunch times will vary based on the bell schedule of the day. We have three primary bell schedules (Regular, Activity, and Family/Club), which you can find on our website: rchs.rvaschools.net/about-us/bell-schedule
- All students must use the sign in/out system when leaving their classroom after receiving permission from their teacher. This is standard practice for our school culture.
- We will implement our 10/10 rule, which indicates no movement in the building during the first ten minutes and last ten minutes of class, unless it's an emergency.

Important Dates

District Calendar

www.rvaschools.net/news/district-calendar

RCHS Events Calendar

rchs.rvaschools.net/about-us/community-high-school-events-calendar

College Visits — This is HAPPENING NOW....WE HAVE WEEKLY VISITS (please encourage your scholars to sign up to attend) You'll find the college-visits calendar on the "Counseling" page of our website: rchs.rvaschools.net/academics/counseling

Breast Cancer Awareness — All Pharaohs will wear PINK on Mondays! **Wear PINK on Tuesday, October 25th due to school closing on Monday.**

RCHS Application Process (Portal opens) — Friday, October 14th (Closes Dec. 1st at 4:30pm)

Diwali (RPS closed) — Monday, October 24th

Virginia College Application Week — Monday, October 24th – Friday, October 28th

This year **Virginia College Application Week** will take place on **October 24-28**. During this week, fee waivers will be available for seniors applying to state colleges and universities. Additionally, college representatives will visit our seniors to showcase their schools and offer on-site admissions. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to apply to schools for free and to get assistance with writing personal essays and applying for FAFSA. For more information regarding college presentations, please visit the school website or contact our school counselor, Bernita Williams (rchs.rvaschools.net/academics/counseling)

End-of-Course (EOC) Writing Test (SOL) – Wednesday and Thursday, October 26th-27th

Halloween Parade & Costume Design Contest — Week of Tuesday, October 31st

End of 1st Nine Weeks — Friday, November 4th

Wellness Day (RPS closed) – Monday, November 7th

Caregiver/Parent Teacher Conference (School closed for students) – Tuesday, November 8th

RCHS Open House– Wednesday, November 16th

Student SOL Celebration – Monday, November 21st

Harvest Fest — Tuesday, November 22nd

Thanksgiving Break (RPS closed) – Wednesday-Friday, November 23rd-25th

Spirit Week — Monday, November 28th

Homecoming Dance — Saturday, December 3rd

Winter Concert & Dancing with the Stars — week of Monday, December 12th

Winter Break — December 19th- 30th

GRASP- FAFSA Information

GRASP (Great Aspirations Scholarship Program, Inc.) provides FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) completion assistance FREE of charge through its GRASP Advisors working at more than 110 schools in the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://grasp4va.org/grasp-schools>). The FAFSA is the application for undergraduate and graduate students seeking federal student aid (i.e., grants, work-study, loans). The application for the 2023-2024 academic year opens on October 1, 2022.

Contact the school counseling office or email the school's GRASP Advisor to make an appointment (see link above). GRASP also offers evening virtual appointments on Wednesday nights and Saturdays; call 804-923-0059 to make a virtual appointment. Email advising inquiries to advising@grasp4va.org.

Arrival/Dismissal

Below is a very important message from our Safety & Security Department after evaluating our dismissal and traffic process. Please adhere to these guidelines. Parent pickup and drop-off is at

the front of the building on E. Brookland Park Blvd. Students and parents should be using the crosswalks at each corner to safely cross the street. Mid-block crossing is dangerous, and visibility is limited. Drivers should follow traffic laws at all times. To avoid traffic collisions, no U-turns should be done in the middle of the street. We want all students and their families to arrive and depart safely at all times.

Please avoid using Woodrow Ave if possible, as this street is used for bus arrival and dismissal. If you have to use Woodrow Ave. when buses are loading and unloading, **vehicles are to remain stopped while the stop sign is out and flashing red.** (<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/46.2-859>) There is a fine of \$250 for violations of passing a stopped school bus.

****The safety of our students, staff, and community is our priority. Let us all do our part!**

Transportation

Please visit the link below for the most recent bus stop information. I strongly encourage you to look at this again over the weekend to ensure you are viewing updates. Once you click on the link, please click the high school tab and you will see all bus routes for RCHS.

www.rvaschools.net/operating-office/transportation/bus-stops/high-school

PTSA Information

Huge shout-out to all the parents who attended the PTSA meeting on 10/19! We truly enjoyed you at the meeting. Your input continues to help us make improvements for our school community. Thank you!!!!

Please be sure to visit our new PT Board site to join the PTSA:
richmondcommunityhigh.ptboard.com/

Follow us on Facebook and/or Instagram for updates:
www.facebook.com/rchspharaohsptsa
www.instagram.com/rchspharaohsptsa/

Please feel free to contact me at (804) 780-4332 or at Kmassenb@rvaschools.net 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. Our school's website is: www.rvaschools.net/RCHS.

We are Stronger Together: All In, All One, All Pharaohs!

Kenya E. Massenburg

Kenya E. Massenburg, Principal