

Friday, May 5, 2023

Pharaoh Families,

Happy Friday! All students that are scheduled to take morning AP exams should report to school no later than 7:45am on their testing day (May 1- May 12). **We have one more week of AP testing. SOL testing is up next!!!**

Here is the link (rchs.rvaschools.net/about-us/principals-newsletter) to access our weekly updates.

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

PTSA Family Festival - May 10th, 5 - 7 pm (See attached Flyer for details)

Here is a list of important dates; dates will be added to this list each week and highlighted:

SOL Testing & Expediated Retakes — May 23rd – June 5th

AP Testing — May 1st – May 12th – All students that are scheduled to take morning AP exams should report to school no later than 7:45am on their testing day.

Senior Exams — May 22nd – May 25th (Senior grades are due May 25th)

Special Senior Information

May 31st – Honor/Awards Program Rehearsal

June 1st Honor/Awards Program

June 5th – Graduation Practice 10am

June 6th – Graduation 10am

Underclassmen Information:

June 2th – 5th – Exams (Grades due June 7th)

June 8th – SOL Celebration

June 9th – Honor/Awards Program

Updated Bell Schedule & Morning Meetings

We will modify our bell schedule slightly to equally share time used for our Morning Meetings among all four class periods. Please encourage your scholars to attend our daily Morning Meetings by arriving to school on time (8:55am). This will help us start our day off strong and to ensure all scholars receive important information that is discussed during our meetings. New bell schedules are located on the school's website.

In addition to our modified bell schedules, we are requesting that all driver's and car riders arrive in time for breakfast if they would like the opportunity to eat in the cafeteria. Our cafeteria/breakfast will close daily at the start of our Morning Meetings. The only exception to this is if we have late arrival of school buses. Please support this initiative to ensure all students are arriving on time and participating in our Morning Meetings.

****Grade 9 and 10 students will complete career-interest assessments and work on course selection for the 2023-2024 school year on Wednesday, March 8. You are encouraged to help your students with selecting courses. The course selection process is located on Schoolinks - <https://app.schoolinks.com/login/k12>. Access the Course Planner tool by using your scholar's Clever login credentials. For more information, please get in touch with Bernita Williams, School Counselor.**

****10th & 11th Grade ONLY****

This spring our school, in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Education and the Virginia Office of Education Economics, is participating in an international evaluation of career readiness. As part of this evaluation a career readiness survey will be given to **students in 10th and 11th grades**. This evaluation aims to benchmark the career guidance system in Virginia including an examination of the key features of the system and career readiness of young people. This review will shed light on how young people experience, explore, and navigate their future pathways.

I am writing to provide you with information on the student survey. The survey will be completed online using computers at school. The survey does not ask for your student's name and all answers are anonymous (no one will know how your student answered the survey). There is a copy of the survey available at school for your review.

The majority of survey questions are pulled directly from the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) Survey <https://www.oecd.org/pisa/> This survey has been fielded globally since the year 2000 in more than 90 countries to 3 million students worldwide.

All students in grades 10 and 11 will be asked to participate. The survey is voluntary, and your student can decide not to participate. No action will be taken against you, your student, or the school if you do not participate. If you do not wish for your student to participate, please notify the school office by telephone (804) 780-4332 or letter by **Friday, March 3, 2023**.

***Partnership for the Future met with our 9th graders this month to share information about their high school college prep and workforce development program. For more information about PFF, please visit:

<https://www.partnershipforthefuture.org/>

It's the 2023-2024 course request time! Beginning the week of February 27, students will start to plan for next school year's courses. Like last year, students will use Schoolinks to assess interests and request courses. Please ask your scholar to share with you his/her/their interests and requests via Schoolinks: <https://app.schoolinks.com/login/k12>

For additional information or questions, please get in touch with Ms. Williams, School Counselor, at bwilliam@rvaschools.net or 804.780.4332

****After-school activity buses:** We currently do not have any students that have used the Churchill after-school bus this school year. We will no longer offer this bus unless a student/parent request it. Please contact the main office to do so if necessary. Thanks

Senior Parents:

2023 is here! Yay!

Please submit a full or partial payment for senior dues as soon as possible. Details for how to pay can be found on the school website and in the Class of 2023 Google Classroom (of which every senior is a member).

Also, be on the lookout for cap/gown order information coming next week.

Please email Mrs. Crone (hkistler@rvaschools.net) or Ms. Henderson (dhender2@rvaschools.net) with any questions or concerns.

Minimester Information:

Dates: May 15th – 19th students will receive specific information for their respective grade levels. Please also visit our school's website for more information on grade-level tabs under "Programs & Activities" > "Minimesters" (<https://rchs.rvaschools.net/programs-activities/minimesters>).

****JUNIORS ONLY** (Message from Mrs. Baber)

Junior Class Families,

I'm writing on behalf of the Junior Class Team to share some information about minimester. This year, the junior class will travel to Lancaster & Philadelphia, PA from May 15-19. We are planning to visit many historical & cultural sites, tour colleges, participate in some team-building activities, and have fun coming together as a class. Minimester is a unique Community experience and we are so excited to bring it back. We should have received an informational letter with details.

****Sophomore Minimester**

This year, we are excited to take our sophomores to Atlanta, Georgia, to explore civil and human rights. The city of Atlanta is rich with cultural and historical attractions that will lend to the development of our mission. Atlanta played an essential role in the Civil War and the Civil Rights movement. While there, our sophomore students will examine the Holocaust and other examples of genocide in the twentieth century and synthesize evidence from artifacts and primary and secondary sources to obtain information about events and life in world history.

Attractions like the Michael C. Carlos Museum, Center for Civil and Human Rights, Apex Museum, Museum of History and Holocaust Education, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site will all serve to inform our students of the rich history of the state of Georgia and how that history has impacted our lives today.

In addition to the cultural aspects of the trip, students will tour the campuses of several area colleges. This will allow them to speak directly with admission officers and get a feel for campus life.

Please use [this online portal](#) to make the third payment, **due by Monday, March 20, 2023**.

****Freshman minimester**

Canoeing, museum visits, hikes... we're booking our Freshman Minimester activities now!

Be sure that you and your child have joined our Freshman class Google Classroom to get important information and reminders as we prepare for our trip. In our Google classroom, take a minute to read our February newsletter, see our interactive Google map of sites we will visit, and look at the slide show our Freshman class officers presented! You can also remind your student to complete the food survey to help us plan menus.

As a reminder: please use the QR code here to make payments for your child's trip. The total trip cost is \$375 per student; families with financial need have received grants to assist with the cost. Please be sure you are making payments in a timely fashion, as we need these funds in our account in order to book our activities now!

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

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











**EVERYONE
IS INVITED
TO JOIN**

FAMILY NIGHT

**Free Dinner, Games, School Clubs &
PTSA Elections**

Date & Time:
**Wednesday, May 10th
5-7pm at RCHS
(Outside Weather
Permitting)**

Details:
**FREE DINNER OF HAMBURGERS,
HOT DOGS & CHIPS + OUTDOOR
GAMES & BOARD GAMES**

Pre-registration is not required but helpful. Email us with the
number of attendees from your family: ptsaofrchs@gmail.com