

Thursday, March 14, 2024

Richmond Community High School

Happy Thursday, Pharaoh Families! New information is highlighted in **RED**. Thank you for your continued partnership and support!

**I would like to remind parents to please have open discussions with your scholars about bullying, social media, and encouraging others to be their authentic selves rather than engaging in negative discussions that will impact someone negatively. It's important that we set the bar high for our school culture and expect our scholars to treat each other with respect. Today during our morning meeting, I reemphasized that culture and the foundation that we set many years ago to remain "THE STANDARD and the BAR" for Richmond Public Schools. Please support our efforts by revisiting this with your scholars. Thank you in advance for your continued partnership!

In this update, you will find:

- RCHS Arrival and Dismissal
- Transportation
- RCHS Procedures
- RCHS Events Calendar & Bell Schedules
- **Important Dates**
- RCHS Costa Rica and Spain Information
- **RCHS PTSA Upcoming Year Info**

Feel free to bookmark this link (rchs.rvaschools.net/about-us/principals-newsletter) for access to all weekly updates. Also, please check out our school's website at www.rvaschools.net/RCHS. Here you will find all important school information, including our school's calendar of events and activities: rchs.rvaschools.net/about-us/community-high-school-events-calendar. 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. Please review our updated Student Code of Responsible Ethics (SCORE). Please click on the link for viewing:

- [The Student Code of Responsible Ethics \(SCORE\)](#)

RCHS 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 pick-up 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. Link is also provided below;

<https://www.rvaschools.net/fs/resource-manager/view/a1da18cb-2c0a-4e73-b1b3-86c01b43b6d6>

RCHS Procedures

- Main Doors open at 8:40am for scholars. Those who arrive early will have to wait outside of the school building until opening time indicated. Students who are not eating breakfast will report directly to the auditorium for our daily Morning Meeting. Scholars who are eating breakfast will report to the cafeteria and will transition to our Morning Meeting at the sound of the bell.
- Breakfast will close daily at 9:00am. Scholars who are late due to RPS transportation will have the opportunity to eat breakfast. Car riders and drivers who arrive late will not be permitted to breakfast.
- At the conclusion of our daily Morning Meeting, scholars will transition to their 1st period classes except during the first week of school, when scholars will transition to Family for important information.
- Lunch times will vary based on the bell schedule of the day. We have a total of four bell schedules (Regular, Activity, and Family).
- Please sign and return all RCHS forms and have your students return them by Thursday, August 24th.
- Scholars who request a schedule change will be directed to complete a schedule change request form via QR code that will be located around the school building starting the first day of school. The last day to make a schedule change is Friday, September 8th. No changes will happen after this date.
- All scholars must use the sign-in/sign-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.
- All scholars who drive must complete the driving form; driving privileges will be revoked if proper steps are not followed. Privileges can also be revoked at the discretion of the principal for disciplinary reasons.
- The SCORE (Student Code of Responsible Ethics) must be followed by all scholars daily.
- The Honor Code must be followed by all scholars.

School & District Calendars

- RCHS Events Calendar: [rchs.rvaschools.net/about-us/community-high-school-events-calendar](https://www.rvaschools.net/about-us/community-high-school-events-calendar)
- District Calendar: <https://www.rvaschools.net/news/district-calendar>

****SENIOR PARENTS...**Please remind your scholar to apply for the many scholarships currently available. For more information, please see our school website or contact Ms. Williams, School Counselor.

****All Rising 9th, 10th, & 11th** – All course program planning will be done over the next two weeks. Please log into your scholar's ASPEN account to view their selected courses for the upcoming school year. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Bernita Williams via email at Bwilliam@rvaschools.net

Important Dates

Thursday, March 21st — End of Third Quarter (report cards will be sent home the following week)

Friday, March 22nd — 2-Hour Early Release and Caregiver/Teacher Conferences
(Appointments available with individual teachers)

Friday, March 22nd — Junior/Senior Prom

Tuesday, March 26th — SAT School Day (Juniors ONLY; no cost involved or registration required) **This is a change**

Wednesday, March 27th — School play and dinner 5:30pm

Friday, March 29th — Wellness Day (no school)

Monday, April 1st – Friday, April 5th — Spring Break

Wednesday, April 10th — Eid al-Fitr (RPS closed)

RCHS Takes Costa Rica and Spain!

With the help of EF Tours—a well-respected company that has been designing educational tours for more than 55 years—Mr. Simone has planned student trips to **Costa Rica** (in June 2024) and to **Spain** (in June/July 2025). Anyone in the RCHS community—students, alumni, caregivers, friends, faculty, staff—is welcome to join these trips. For information, please visit the "Travel" page of his website: mistersimone.edublogs.org/travel/. And if you have any questions, please let him know!

RCHS PTSA

The RCHS PTSA is now taking nominations for the 2024-25 Board. Several leadership roles are opening up as two-year terms come to an end for our current President, Vice President and Treasurer. We are also looking for a parent who can provide Communications/Marketing support. Join this team of parents, staff and students as we seek to serve our RCHS Pharaohs. Activities this year have included Back-to-School Night support, a fundraising Raffle, concession and ticket sale support for our band and theater departments, an event on preventing cyberbullying for parents, teacher appreciation efforts, and a fun spring event for the whole RCHS community. Want to learn more about open roles? We would be happy to tell you more. Email rchsptsa@gmail.com.

RCHS 2023-2024 Bell Schedules

- <https://rchs.rvaschools.net/about-us/bell-schedule>

Please feel free to contact me at (804) 780-4332 or at Kmassenb@rvaschools.net "Life is a puzzle; you can only see the picture when you put all the pieces together!" **CHEERS** to "Putting it all together, one piece at a time."

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

Your Partner in Education,
Kenya E. Massenburg
Kenya E. Massenburg, Principal