

Friday, November 21, 2025

Richmond Community High School

Happy Friday, Pharaohs! We are excited to provide you with our Feed More partnership. Please review the information provided below. Wishing you a joyful and restful Thanksgiving! May your holiday be filled with gratitude, warmth, and meaningful time with family and friends. Thank you for your continued partnership and support. The next parent communication will be sent Friday, December 5th. As always, new items highlighted in **RED**.

This November, Richmond Community High School's Key Club is partnering with Feed More to help fight hunger in our community! Each RCHS "Family" will collect nonperishable food items and raise funds through our online donation page at <https://give.feedmore.org/RCHS2025>

Families are encouraged to bring in healthy, shelf-stable items such as canned vegetables, tuna, peanut butter, pasta, and low-sodium soups. Collection boxes are in classrooms, and all donations will be picked up on Tuesday, November 25, at 9:45 A.M.

Together, we can make a meaningful difference for neighbors in need this holiday season. Thank you for supporting our scholars as they lead this important service project!

In this update, you will find:

- RCHS Arrival and Dismissal
- Transportation
- RCHS Procedures
- Clear Backpack Protocol
- District Calendar
- Important Dates (**Fall Testing Schedule**)
- Friends of RCHS Gift Campaign

Families, please ensure that scholars bring their school-issued Chromebooks to school every day. While we understand some may prefer using personal devices, for instructional purposes we are requiring all scholars to use their RPS-issued Chromebooks. These devices are equipped with important alerts, filters, and district-wide resources that support the success of all students. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Feel free to bookmark this link (<https://rchs.rvaschools.net/about-us/principals-newsletter>) for access to all weekly updates (From our home page go to the About Us tab then Principal's Newsletter). Also, please check out our school's website at (<https://rchs.rvaschools.net/>). 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.

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

Here is the link of all bus routes: <https://www.rvaschools.net/fs/resource-manager/view/a3b20a66-c370-476c-8fc9-032b95d5cb7b>

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 have breakfast.
- Lunch times will vary based on the bell schedule of the day. We have a total of four bell schedules (Regular, Activity, Family, & Picnic).
- 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 also have incorporated restroom passes.
- 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 forms; 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. We also have a new updated dress code policy. No scholars are permitted to wear cropped tops.
- The Honor Code must be followed by all scholars.
- All cell phones and other electronic devices must be powered off and stored away in a bag not in pockets on individuals.

Clear Backpack Protocol

As a part of Richmond Public Schools' (RPS) ongoing efforts to enhance safety for students and staff members, clear backpack is required.

A clear backpack is:

- COMPLETELY CLEAR ON ALL SIDES EXCEPT THE BOTTOM
 - BACKPACK-SIZED OR SIMILAR: SMALLER BAGS ARE PERMITTED, BUT LARGER ONES ARE NOT
 - STILL SUBJECT TO INSPECTION BY THE CARE AND SAFETY TEAM
1. CLEAR BACKPACK REQUIREMENT APPLIES TO ALL STUDENTS.
 2. LUNCH BAGS/BOXES DO NOT HAVE TO BE CLEAR, BUT ARE SUBJECT TO INSPECTION.
 3. STUDENTS MAY CARRY A POUCH NO LARGER THAN 5.5" X 8.5 TO HOLD PERSONAL BELONGINGS (PLEASE REFER TO PICTURE/EXAMPLE LOCATED ON DISTRICT'S WEBSITE AS WELL AS A FAQ)

The only exceptions permitted are:

- A small non-transparent pouch for personal hygiene items.
- School-approved sport-specific carrying case for athletic equipment.
- School-approved instrument-specific carrying case for band equipment.
- School-approved cases for medical equipment.

District Calendars

- District Calendar: <https://www.rvaschools.net/news/district-calendar>

Upcoming Important Dates

- November 25th: Harvest Fest
- November 26-28th: Thanksgiving Break (RPS Closed)
- December 22nd -January 2nd : Winter Break
- December Testing Dates will be available soon
- December Winter Concert Info will be available soon

End-of-Course (SOL) testing is approaching. Beginning the week of December 8, students will complete assessments for the following courses:

December 9 – Geometry; Algebra I (Grade 9)

December 10 – Reading (AP English Language)

December 11 – Biology

December 12 – World History I; World History II (Grade 9)

Friends of Richmond Community High School

Friends of Richmond Community High School is a nonprofit that was formed solely to support our high school. The nonprofit is run by an 11-member board made up of parents, former parents, alumni, educators, and community members. They are celebrating their 10th Anniversary this spring. Alison Owens has been the director since its inception.

They are a trusted resource here at school. Last year they helped fund 86% of expenses for instructional funding, student programs, classroom supplies and equipment, school upgrades, and student learning through service and activities. They make field trips affordable and provide funding for all mini-mesters, supplementing the costs and providing financial assistance to families. Last year they finished providing smart boards for all classrooms.

Currently the nonprofit is running its annual giving campaign with the goal of raising \$40,000 in donations in two months. They could use your support and ask you to spread the word about the campaign. Please learn more at www.friendsofrchs.org/give

[Follow on Facebook](#)

[Follow on Instagram](#)

Feel free to reach out to Alison Owens, rchsfund@gmail.com

Looking forward to a successful school year! Please feel free to contact me at (804) 780-4332 or at Kmassenb@rvschools.net. Thank you in advance for your continued support. With your partnership, we will plan, navigate, and execute with confidence!

Excellence. Unity. Legacy. All In, All One, All Pharaohs!

Your Partner in Education,

Kenya E. Massenburg

Kenya E. Massenburg, Principal

