

Riverside West 2023-2024 School Year

Nicole VanLuvender: Elementary Principal



Starting The Year Off Right



Welcome

Communication is the key to any successful relationship! We may not always see eye to eye, but listening to each other, maintaining respect and valuing the right to have and express an opinion will allow us to overcome any roadblock that may arise!



FIRST THREE DAYS OF SCHOOL

•For the first 3 days of school in addition to their student passport (**lanyard**), all parents are asked to send their child to school wearing a name tag that contains their name, child's teacher, grade and **transportation home** (car rider, bus number and name of stop). You can use a sticker / mailing label or even pin an index card to their shirt. We want to make sure all of our information matches.



Daily Schedule

- Doors open **9:00 AM the first week of school.**(Early supervision 9:00 AM – 9:10 AM)
- Students may enter classrooms **9:10 AM – 9:25 AM**
- All students must be in school by **9:30 AM.**
- Morning announcements start by 9:35 AM.
- The District runs a Six Day Cycle Schedule. Wednesday, September 6th is Day 1. TH 9/7/23 = Day 2, F 9/8/23 = Day 3, M 9/11/23 = Day 4, T 9/12/23 = Day 5, W 9/13/23 = Day 6, TH 9/14/23 = Day 1. Non school days are skipped.
- The Cycle Days really only determine which Special is on which day. .
- Car line dismissal will begin at **3:00 PM** for the first week or so. Once the students and parents are used to the routine, dismissal will begin at **3:10 PM.**



Morning Arrival

- **Please remain in your vehicle.** Pull all the way up along the sidewalk in front of the school beginning at 9:00 AM. There will be staff members there to assist your child out of the car if they need assistance. You should practice having your child buckle and unbuckle their seatbelt. Have everything ready to go; backpacks, good-byes, etc.
- We do not start to get students out of the cars until 9:10 AM (9:00AM first week). There is no need to arrive at the school earlier than that time.
- Please be mindful of little, young impressionable ears. We ask that you watch your language, and music content while on school property.
- We kindly ask for cooperation, patience and grace as everyone learns the procedure.



Car Pick Up Dismissal

- **Please remain in your vehicle.** There are two car lines. Pull all the way up. Do not pull around other cars or drive through the middle of the lanes to get out of the line as our staff members are crossing little ones to the second car line.
- A staff member will direct you when you can move forward / leave the line.
- We do not start to move the line until 3:05 PM (3:10 PM)
- Your car tag must be hanging and visible for our staff to check you in.
- A staff member will bring your child to your car, open the door and assist them getting in.
- Have your child practice buckling their own seat belt. We do not buckle the children.
- We kindly ask for cooperation, patience and grace as everyone learns the procedure.



Pick Up Patrol (PUP) and The Car Line / Bus Dismissal

- All parents must use **PUP**. If you do not have an email address or access to the internet, we will make accommodations for you.
- This is not an app. You have to save it to your home-screen.
- PUP is used for late arrival, early dismissal, daily absences, and dismissal plan changes.
- If your child is a car rider you must have a car tag displayed during pick up. You do not need it for drop off.
- Default plans will be locked on 9-5-23. If you need to change your child's default plan once the year starts, you will need to email Mary or call the office.
- Walkers, parents you must bring a photo id.
- Please DO NOT arrive to the school prior to 9:00 AM or 3:05 PM. The car line does not begin to move until 9:00 AM / (3:05) 3:10 PM. Arriving early just causes a traffic jam. We can empty our car lines in 12-15 minutes once we start to move them.
- Buses depart beginning at approximately 3:30 PM.
- We apologize in advance, but everything runs late the first week.



Walker Dismissal

- Please wait on the sidewalk outside of the walker door.
- A staff member will open the door to check you in and tap out your child.
- We do not start dismiss walkers until 3:05 / 3:10
- Please DO NOT “drive” and park your car in the staff lot bypassing the car line to pick your child up as a walker. You are asked to park at the library and walk over if this is your preferred method of dismissal.
- We kindly ask for cooperation, patience and grace as everyone learns the procedure.



FREE Breakfast and Lunch

- All students will receive a **FREE** breakfast and lunch daily.
- If your child will be packing a lunch (snack), please be mindful of classmates with food allergies.
- Breakfast is eaten in the classroom
- Lunch will be eaten in the cafeteria.
- All students may bring a water bottle. We have 2 filling stations.
- We ask that you refrain from sending in soda and fast food.



FREE Children's Produce Market

- All families regardless of income are eligible.
- The market is held once per month. It is on the third Tuesday, after school from 4:00 – 5:00 in the cafeteria.
- It will be a self shop format. Please bring your own shopping bags!
- **Everyone is welcome. There are no income requirements.**



Attendance & Truancy

Attendance

- Please do your best to have your child attend school every day.
- In the event of illness (vomiting, fever), please keep them home.
- Up to 10 parent “notes” are acceptable to excuse an absence. Any absence after 10 days must have a doctor’s note.
- Absences must be entered with a reason in PUP. This will serve as your “parent note.”
- Work for absent students can be obtained by contacting your child’s teacher.



Truancy

- Students are considered truant after 3 unexcused absences.
- Students are considered habitually truant after 10 absences.
- 3 day and 10 day letters, SAIP Meetings (w/ STARS Lackawanna County representative)
- Mr. Lacomis is our truancy monitor.



Car Tag Pick Up / Uniform Pick Up

Car Tags

- If you plan on picking your child up on the first day of school, you will need to pick up your car tag on Tuesday, September 5th between 1:00 PM & 3:30 PM.
- Students taking the bus on the first day will not need their tag.
- Students riding the bus will have their car tags sent home on the first day. Please keep them in your car.
- If you are unable to pick up your car tag, you can bring your photo id on the first day..



Uniform Pick Up

- If you are in need of gently used uniforms, you can contact our school nurse for assistance or stop by Moosic Presbyterian Church Clothing Closet on Saturdays from 10:00 – 12:00.
- ** We take gently used / clean uniform donations throughout the year. Parents can request uniforms at any time.



Dress Code / Student Passport (Lanyard & ID)

Students must wear any solid navy, red or white shirt. The logo no longer needs to be embroidered.

Any Riverside Spirit Wear shirt is acceptable

Pants / shorts must be khaki or navy. (Girls skorts, skirts, jumpers, dresses, shorts)

On PE day, students may wear navy, red, white, grey gym shorts, wind pants or sweat pants.

For girls, any type of tights are acceptable.

Sneakers are preferred or any closed toe shoes. Color does not matter.

It is suggested all students keep an emergency change of clothes in their backpack.

Many organizations sell spirit-wear throughout the year. (Remind app. Mr. Brennan)

Students will be given their student passport on the first day of school. This will contain their id number, PBIS QR code, and dismissal information. They must wear this to school every day!



School Nurse / Medical Information

Mrs. Saunders is our school nurse.

Please communicate specific medical concerns and needs to her.

Complete emergency cards and other requested information.

Medication can not be given without an order from the doctor.

Do not send medication to school with your child. It must be brought in by a parent.

We do make accommodations as necessary for students with specific medical needs.



Emergency Drills

** Conducted at various times throughout the year

Fire Drills

Intruder Drills

Weather Emergency

Evacuation Drills

Shelter In Place



Chromebooks and Google Classroom

Every student will be issued a Chromebook.

There will be a \$25.00 non-refundable insure fee collected each year.

Forms will be sent home on the first day of school. Please return a check or money order made payable to the Riverside School District. ** There is a fee for a check with insufficient funds. Cash is accepted, but not preferred.

Students will be responsible for bringing their Chromebook to and from school each day along with their charger.

Please make sure the Chromebooks is charged nightly.

When a student is absent, their assignments will be posted on their Google Classroom.



Initiatives

Math Pilot New Series

SBBH (School Based Behavioral Health / Out Patient Therapists / Counselors)

SEL: Social Emotional Learning (Mindfulness / Wellness)

Emotional Support Classroom

SUCCESS *Strategizing and Utilizing Collaboration and Cooperation to Enhance Student Success*

Early Risers

Amplify (MClass Math, Reading, and DIBELS)

FOCUS School Software: Student Information Management System

Skills Based Report Cards

Mr. Yarem and / or Miss Valente is available to address any school counseling related needs./ concerns



PBIS REWARDS / FUNDRAISING

PBIS REWARDS

- Our school uses an incentive called PBIS Rewards.
- You should have received an email to download the **PARENT APP**.
- Students earn points for making good choices. They can spend their points on various raffles, classroom stores and incentives throughout the year.
- Infractions are logged and communicated via PBIS.
- Teachers use PBIS as a communication tool.



FUNDRAISERS

- Our fundraisers are run through student council.
- Fundraisers support PBIS as well as school wide projects for the students.
- We truly appreciate your support!



Where Do Your Donations Go?

Peaceful Playgrounds Equipment

Book vending Machine: Books

Classroom and Whole School Parties / Rewards

COMING UP:

Poinsettia Certificate Sale; Jerry's

Texas Roadhouse Night

Calendar Sale

Grade Parade

Bake Sale



Kindergarten Orientation

Thursday, August 31st

Please come to West during your assigned time based on your child's teacher assignment.

9:00 – 10:00: Kindergarten Classes of Mrs. Harchar and Miss Carlin

11:00 – 12:00: Kindergarten Classes of Mrs. Loney and Mrs. Chickeletti

1:00 – 2:00: Kindergarten Classes of Mrs. Mattioli and Transitional Kindergarten-Mrs. Davis

2:30 – 3:30 First and Second Grade New Students to the district for the 23-24 school year – Mrs. VanLuvender will provide a tour of the school and show students where their classrooms will be.



Back To School Night / Meet the Teachers / BAKE SALE

- Tuesday, September 12th
- 5:15 – 6:15 Grade 1 and Mrs. Davis', Mrs. Chickeletti's, & Mrs. Mattioli & Mrs. DeNinno's
- 6:30 – 7:30 Grade 2 and Miss. Carlin's, Mrs. Loney's & Mrs. Harchar's Classes
- When you arrive at the school, please **DO NOT park in the yellow lined spaces in front of the school** as these are reserved for the teaching staff. You are welcome to park along the main driveway, in the grassy area, along the chain-link fence (to the left when looking at the school) or at the HS. **Please DO NOT park in front of the school in the fire lane.**
- Back To School Night is a time for you to find out about our school and academic programs. If you need to discuss personal information or have specific concerns regarding your child, please schedule a separate, private conference time with your child's teacher. It is strongly recommended that you leave your children at home as the evening is intended to be geared toward parents. If you do not have the ability to secure child care, your child must remain with you at all times. Please do not leave him/her unattended and remind them they must sit quietly during the presentations. Your cooperation and understanding is greatly appreciated!



Thank You!

Classroom specific curriculum / procedural questions will be reviewed on Back To School Night.

Questions?

- nvanluvender@riversidesd.com
- On Facebook @REWSchool
Riverside Elementary School West
- One Call Now for emails, text and recorded calls

IT IS GOING TO BE AN AMAZING YEAR!

