

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 96
Five Schools • One District • Optimizing Excellence



Dear Central Families,

I can hardly believe that summer is coming to a close and the school year is upon us. It has been a very busy couple of months here at Central and I cannot wait for students to join us for another fantastic school year. As you begin thinking about the 2018-19 school year, it is my hope that this letter will answer many of your questions.

Class Assignments:

On Friday, August 17th, School Messenger will send electronic notification confirming your child's registration within District 96 and communicating his or her classroom assignment for the 2018-2019 school year. Please note that class lists will no longer be posted on the exterior doors of the school for the protection of our students' confidentiality.

For parents and guardians who have not completed in-person residency and registration (at the District Office), please do so as soon as possible. Please know your child will not be assigned to a class list until the residency and registration is completed.

On Wednesday, August 22nd from 2:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. will be the Central School Meet and Greet. This will be an opportunity for **1st through 5th grade** students and their parents to see the classroom, meet the teacher, and drop off school supplies. The PTO will be hosting a social gathering from 2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m **for all Central students**. Please take some time to come meet the teachers and say hello to your friends.

School begins on Thursday, August 23rd with a full day for students in 1st to 5th grades (8:15-2:55). **All Kindergarten students are invited to visit their classroom, and drop off their supplies, during the KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE according to the schedule that follows:**

- 8:20 - 8:50 - AM session students with last names beginning A-B
- 8:50 - 9:20 - AM session students with last names beginning C-E
- 9:20 - 9:50 - AM session students with last names beginning F-H
- 9:50 - 10:20 - AM session students with last names beginning I-L
- 10:20 - 10:50 - AM session students with last names beginning M-S
- 10:50 - 11:20 - AM session students with last names beginning U-Z
- 11:15 – 12:15 – PTO Kindergarten Picnic
- 12:00 - 12:30 - PM session students with last names beginning A-B
- 12:30 - 1:00 - PM session students with last names beginning C-F
- 1:00 - 1:30 - PM session students with last names beginning G-L
- 1:30 - 2:00 - PM session students with last names beginning M-P
- 2:00 - 2:30 - PM session students with last names beginning Q-T
- 2:30 – 2:55 - PM session students with last names beginning U-Z

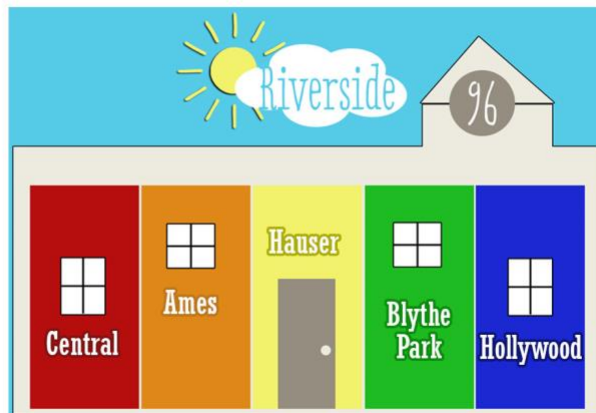
For the open house, please arrive through the main entrance of the school anytime during your scheduled time slot. You and your child will then walk to the kindergarten classroom where you are welcome to stay for 15-30 minutes.

Regular kindergarten hours (8:15-11:10AM & 12:00-2:55PM) will begin on Friday, August 24th.

61 Woodside Road • Riverside, Illinois 60546 • (708) 447-1106 • Fax (708) 447-5030

www.district96.org/central

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 96
Five Schools • One District • Optimizing Excellence



CENTRAL SCHOOL STAFF 2018-2019

OFFICE TEAM:

Mr. Peter Gatz, Principal
Mrs. Dina Witken, School Secretary
Mrs. Amy Koltz – Mid-Day Assistant
TBD – Mid-Day Assistant

CLASSROOM TEACHERS:

Ms. Lisa Sula, Kindergarten AM & PM
Mrs. Jennifer Maslowski, Kindergarten AM
Ms. Kristen Economos, 1st Grade
Ms. Hannah Stephens, 1st Grade
Mrs. Gianna Marotta, 1st Grade
Mrs. Alexandra Laws, 2nd Grade (TBD Sub until November 2018)
Mrs. Amanda Neal, 2nd Grade
Mrs. Emily Fendrich, 2nd Grade
Mrs. Mary Kladis, 3rd Grade
Mrs. Samantha Crowley, 3rd Grade
Mrs. Ashley Kamp, 3rd Grade
Ms. Addie Ellspermann, 3rd Grade
Mrs. Michelle Bindon (Laughlin), 4th Grade
Mrs. Samantha Lutz, 4th Grade
Mrs. Kelly Lyson (Sherman), 4th Grade
Mrs. Nicole Desmond (Pauga), 4th Grade
Ms. Valerie Brackett, 5th Grade
Mr. Steve Elgeness, 5th Grade
Ms. Laura McMahon, 5th Grade
Mrs. Nicole Mazza, 5th Grade

SPECIALS:

Mr. Bill Howes, Music
Mrs. Ellen Valaisa, Art
Mrs. Patricia Dost, Physical Education

STUDENT SERVICES AND CURRICULAR SUPPORT:

Ms. Meghan Kennedy, Resource
Mrs. Donna Considine, Resource
Mrs. Allison King, Resource
Mrs. Catherine Dykes, Advanced Learning

61 Woodside Road • Riverside, Illinois 60546 • (708) 447-1106 • Fax (708) 447-5030

www.district96.org/central

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 96
Five Schools • One District • Optimizing Excellence



Mrs. Kim Eddy, Advanced Learning
Mrs. Alejandra Govea-Lopez, TBE Teacher
Mrs. Molly Quiroz, TPI Teacher
Mrs. Meg O'Brien, Reading Specialist
Mr. Mario Weston, Reading Specialist
Mrs. Debbie Chiganos – Math Interventionist (Year-long sub for Alecia Patterson)
Mrs. Haley Bring, Social Worker
Ms. Michelle Imes, Speech Therapist
TBD, Occupational Therapist (Pending LADSE notification to D96)
TBD, Physical Therapist (Pending LADSE notification to D96)
Mrs. Brianna Shaw, School Psychologist
Mrs. Dana Dobbe, Health Aide

PARAPROFESSIONALS:

Mrs. Karen Brudniak
Mrs. Rose Mary Burandt
Mrs. Maria Lombardo
Mrs. Maria Hernandez
Mrs. Susan Sherman
Mrs. Pat Rohm
Mrs. Ana Gomes

LIBRARY:

Mrs. Ellen Nolan, Media Specialist

CUSTODIAN:

Mr. Russell Moytokowski, Day

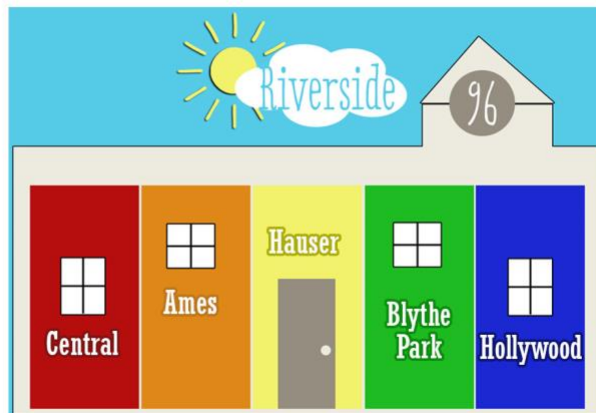
Returning Student Registration:

If you did not complete your registration paperwork, provide residency proof and fees in June, please do so as soon as possible. Late forms and fees must be turned in to the District immediately. Fees are listed by grade on the website. Checks should be written to Riverside District 96. Be aware that there is a risk to registering late. Late registrants might have to attend schools other than Central. If you do not have a completed registration for each of your children, your child is **not** on a Central class list.

Students New to the District:

If you know of any families new to our district, please tell them that registration forms are online at www.district96.org. Registration forms, address verification and fees should be returned to the District Office at 63 Woodside Road in Riverside.

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 96
Five Schools • One District • Optimizing Excellence



School Hours: Starting Thursday, August 24th:

AM Kindergarten	8:15 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.
PM Kindergarten	12:00 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.
Grades 1 – 5	8:15 a.m. – 2:55 p.m.
Lunch (1 st -5 th)	11:40a.m. – 12:30p.m. <i>every day</i>

Supervision is not provided on the playground before these starting times. Students should arrive on the school grounds no more than ten (10) minutes before the start of the morning session (8:05 a.m.) Students are expected to go home promptly when dismissed in the afternoon at 2:55 p.m. Students may ONLY play on the equipment in front of the building after school with parent supervision. School personnel are not available to supervise the playground equipment before/after school.

Student dismissal time can be very busy at Central. Parents of Kindergarten and first grade students are asked to pick their student up from the classroom teachers at the same doors they enter the building each morning. This request is for the safety of the youngest students at Central.

Student Absence:

A parent or guardian must call the school office at (708) 447-1106 anytime before 8:15 AM to report the absence of your child. This is an important safety measure for your child. We need your cooperation with this request and this policy offers you the security of knowing that he/she has arrived safely at school. Good attendance and being on time each day are an expectation. There are positive correlations between good attendance and successful academic performance. If we do not hear from you, we will call to find out where your child is that day. If chronic absences occur, I will schedule a meeting with you to discuss my concerns. Again, this is to ensure student safety.

Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures During the School Day

In order to make sure that children are safe and accounted for at all times, please note the following procedures for picking up students from school during school hours. (This includes picking up students for lunch, doctor's appointments, etc.)

- Please send a note (before 8:00am that day) indicating when your child will be picked up from school. Please specify the first and last name of the adult who will be picking up your child. Please refrain from emails as email is not always seen in time.
- Your child will be sent to the office at your indicated pick-up time.
- The adult must enter the school office to sign-out the child before he/she is dismissed from the building. The child will only be dismissed to the specified adult. When signing a child out, do not enter the time out and the time back in to avoid having to come back into the building to sign the child in again.
- **Upon returning to the building, the adult must re-enter the office to sign the child back in to school. Please do not just send the child into school alone.**

61 Woodside Road • Riverside, Illinois 60546 • (708) 447-1106 • Fax (708) 447-5030

www.district96.org/central

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 96
Five Schools • One District • Optimizing Excellence



Your cooperation with these procedures is greatly appreciated to ensure the safety of all students.

Bicycles and Scooters:

Students are permitted to ride their bicycles to school as long as they obey the safety rules, lock their bicycles to the bicycle rack, and wear a helmet. Scooters/skateboards are not permitted on the school grounds district wide. *Students are expected to walk their bikes while on school property.*

Lunch at School:

The lunch times are a continued effort to best utilize shared space between Central and Hauser. School meals are a great value and a huge convenience for busy families. The lunch meal is \$3.00. Milk is 40 cents this year. To view the monthly menu, please see the District 96 web page.

Lunch hour: Monday – Friday 11:40am – 12:30 pm

Students may bring a lunch or buy hot lunch. Current costs to students are as follows:

Class A Hot Lunch (on menu):	\$3.00
Book of 20 lunch tickets (includes milk)	\$60.00

Students who forget to bring a lunch or payment for a hot lunch **will** be allowed to call home.

A different system for purchasing items may be introduced during the school year. If this occurs, communication will occur explaining the transition and introducing the new system.

Student Pictures:

Student pictures will be taken on September 25th. You will receive more information about Picture Day as it becomes available.

Physical Examinations:

The Illinois School Code specifies that physical examinations are mandatory for children entering kindergarten and the sixth grade. Each kindergarten child must have his/her doctor's report of the mandated physical examination by August 15th, 2018. The Board of Education of District 96 has directed that the terms of the School Code be strictly enforced. Exceptions to this regulation are made only for those students whose parents or guardians have filed with the principal of the school an annual written objection to a physical examination on religious grounds. (The School Code of Illinois, 1985, Chapter 122, Section 27-8.1.)

Vision Exam:

The Illinois State Law requires a vision exam for all incoming Kindergarten students.

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 96
Five Schools • One District • Optimizing Excellence



Dental Examinations:

The Illinois State Law requires a dental examination for all incoming Kindergarten and 2nd grade students.

School Records:

The law governing student records requires us to advise you annually that no person outside of the district may see any of the material in your child's file without a signed permission slip from you. This ruling also affects the transfer of records for those children moving from our district. Your child's file is always open to you whenever you wish to make an appointment with the teacher or the principal for the purpose of examining the materials in your child's record file.

Instrumental Music:

District 96 provides both Orchestra and Band instruction. Orchestra and Band instruction begins in the fifth grade. Both programs continue through the eighth grade. These lessons are optional. The only cost to the parents is the instrument. Information regarding this program and the instruments will be given at a meeting at Hauser Junior High School early in the school year.

School Parties:

It is customary in District 96 to limit parties during the school year to those that do not interfere with the educational program like Halloween, Winter Break, Valentine's Day, and End-of the Year. Refreshments are determined/assigned by room parents and should adhere to the District 96 Wellness Policy and comply with known allergy concerns in the classrooms.

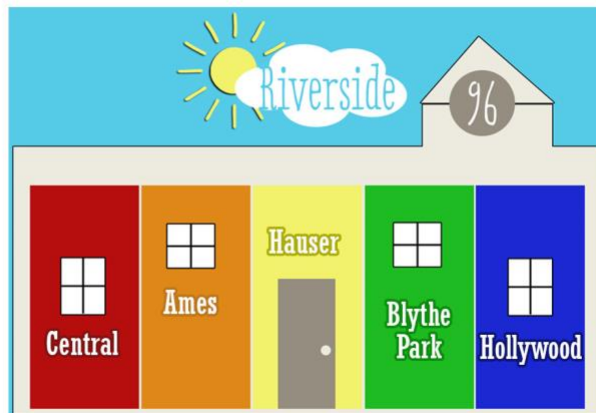
Birthdays:

Parents are asked **not** to send cake, cookies, toys, or any type of treat on a child's birthday or on holidays throughout the year. Although the desire to supply these treats may be motivated by a very commendable attitude on the part of parents, they lead to many obvious difficulties related to allergies and nutrition. Invitations to parties held outside the school may be distributed at school **ONLY if each child in the class has been invited.**

Security System Procedures at Central:

We are always concerned about the safety of the children. Please use the buzzer located at the Central School main entrance to enter the school. ALL visitors are required to sign in at the office upon entrance to the building. Then, you will be issued a visitor's pass. When you are finished with your visit, please return to the office to sign out before exiting the school. Thank you for your cooperation to ensure the safety of all students and staff at Central.

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 96
Five Schools • One District • Optimizing Excellence



Communication from Central:

In addition to newsletters and School Messenger messages, important information from Central School can be found in the following locations:

Follow Central School on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/D96Central>

Central School Website: <http://www.district96.org/central/>

Some final thoughts to start the year...

It has been a summer of transition for me as I begin my sixth year in District 96. As I continue my own growth as a building principal, I want to continue to build upon the relationships I have developed with the Central School community. The things that we do each day at Central School will be done with the best interests of the students in mind. Educating children is a partnership between home and school. If you have questions as the year progresses, I encourage you to contact your child's teacher to work as partners to find a solution.

My two daughters start school next week. It is amazing how quickly time flies. My wife and I are the proud parents of two middle school students (8th and 6th grade). I can only imagine the stories I'm going to hear when I come home each day as the teenage and tween-age years begin. It is my sincere hope that the experience that they receive at their schools this year is as great as what my staff has planned for your children.

Enjoy the last days of summer and I look forward to seeing everyone very soon.

Sincerely,

Pete Gatz
Principal