

2022-23

Back to School

Frequently Asked Questions



RUSD

RIVERSIDE UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

2022-2023 Back to School FAQ's

Health & Safety

Hygiene

1. Will there be additional hand sanitizing stations?

- Yes, supplies have been ordered for hand sanitization/washing for all classrooms, offices, restrooms and entry points on campuses.

2. Can students bring water bottles to school?

- Yes, students are highly encouraged to bring a water bottle labeled with the student's name to and from school to refill at the water bottle filling stations.

Cleaning/Sanitation

1. Will shared surfaces be cleaned between uses?

- Lunch tables and benches will be cleaned between use.
- Buses will be cleaned between routes.

2. When will classrooms be cleaned?

- Classrooms and offices will be cleaned daily.

Protective Equipment

1. Will the District provide protective equipment?

Yes, protective equipment will be provided to staff and students who would like to utilize them.

- Face coverings will be provided to staff and students who would like to utilize them.
- Face shields will also be provided to staff and students who may require them due to job specifications or special needs in addition to face coverings.
- Disposable gowns and N95 masks will be provided to staff who may require them due to job specifications.
- Students may bring personal face coverings/neck gaiters in accordance with face covering guidance and dress code policy.

2. What are the guidelines for face coverings?

Per California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Guidance:

- Masks are still strongly recommended indoors, but not mandatory. This means that the decision to wear a mask will be the personal preference of each person. It is critical that everyone is allowed to make their personal choice without comment or correction.

Screening and Campus Access

1. Will schools be conducting temperature checks?

No, temperature screenings are no longer conducted.

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2. Will I be able to visit/volunteer in my child's school/classroom?

RUSD recognizes the importance of a strong family and community partnership which includes volunteering in schools. The district is currently developing a system to allow volunteers on campus while continuing to comply with CDPH guidelines. Information will be provided soon.

3. Will parent group meetings or meetings with my child's teacher be held on campus?

Yes, meetings with families and the public can be held on campus or telephonically or virtually via platforms such as Google Meets or Zoom.

Health & Safety

1. What are the procedures when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?

RUSD will follow the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) guidelines. Staff should contact their supervisor if they test positive for COVID-19. A parent/guardian should contact your child's school site if they test positive for COVID-19.

Teaching & Learning

RUSD continues to offer families choices for their children's instructional program for the 2022-23 school year. This includes the traditional In-person instructional programs, a Virtual School, and a Home-based school.

In-person - 100% In-person learning based upon community health circumstances and guidance from state and local health officials

Virtual - 100% on-line learning with live interaction and synchronous instruction. The amount of time for each type of instruction will vary by grade level.

Home-based - Parent/guardian serves as the instructor of content. Regular check-in meetings with a certificated teacher will be provided.

Attendance

1. How do I report an absence when my child is sick?

Contact your child's school of attendance directly and report the reason for the absence to the attendance clerk.

Devices & Connectivity

1. Where can I get assistance with low-cost internet options?

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You may qualify for affordable internet if your student qualifies for the school meal program, also known as the National School Lunch Program. For information on internet providers please visit www.everyoneon.org/cef or contact the RUSD Family Resource Center at (951) 328-4003.

Charter/Spectrum: [Spectrum Internet Assist](#)

*Through the **Spectrum Internet Assist** program, qualified households can receive 30 Mbps Internet service with no data caps, Internet modem included and no contracts required. Add in-home WiFi for \$5 more per month.*

AT&T: [AT&T Access](#)

*Through the **AT&T Access** program, qualified households can receive internet services ranging from 10 Mbps with no deposit or installation fees, no contracts required and wi-fi internet modem included.*

Frontier: [California Lifeline Discount Program](#)

*Through the **Frontier's California Lifeline Discount Program**, qualified households can receive internet services.*

2. Who do I contact if I'm having problems with a district issued device?

Anyone experiencing problems with a district-issued device, please email support@riversideunified.org or call 951-208-7185.

Co-Curricular & Extra-Curricular

Athletic & Performing Arts Guidelines:

Will my child be required to test for COVID as part of their participation in band/choir or athletics?

- No. Per CDPH guidelines, testing is no longer required in order to participate.

Enrollment

1. How do families new to RUSD enroll students in school?

- Registration documents are available online [HERE](#)
- Families can visit their school website for more information on making an appointment to enroll at the school site.

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Family Resources

1. What resources are available to help me care for my family's emotional well-being?

- We are dedicated to ensuring that all students and families have the necessary resources to support their well-being.
- School Counselors, School Psychologists, and SAP Counselors at all schools can be contacted for assistance.
- Family webinars, workshops, and resources are available at [FRC Calendar of Activities](#).
- You may also contact Care Solace 24/7 at 888-515-0595 or email weserve@caresolace.org for assistance locating community resources.

2. Where can I get assistance with creating an email account to receive information from my school and district?

RUSD Family Resource Center staff can help families create an email account and connect families to the Aeries Parent Portal. Please contact the Family Resource Center at 951-328-4003.

3. Can families still attend parent workshops and trainings if they select Riverside Virtual School or the Home-based Program?

Yes, all RUSD families are welcome to attend in-person workshops and family webinars to support student learning, family well-being, and pathways to college and career. For a listing of classes visit [FRC Calendar of Activities](#).

4. Where can I get assistance with food, childcare, counseling, and other resources?

The RUSD Family Resource Center connects families to resources available within the district and through community partnerships. More information can be found at [Community Resources & Services](#) or by calling (951) 328-4003.

5. How do I apply for low-cost internet or a free computer for my family?

To apply for the Affordable Connectivity Program visit internetforallnow.org or contact the RUSD Family Resource Center for assistance. A free refurbished desktop is available to families who complete the RUSD Digital Equity Program. Please contact the Family Resource Center at (951) 328-4003.

6. What tutoring resources are available for my student?

- Paper Tutoring is available to all students in Grades 7-12 for FREE. Paper allows students to receive live-tutoring, 24/7 and is available in any subject in both English and Spanish. Paper can also help with essay writing support by reviewing essays and providing feedback on how to improve grammar, content, and structure within 24 hours of submission. Students can access the Paper app through the Clever Portal. [Click here](#) for the student introduction video to get started.

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Expanded Learning Programs

1. What free after school program is available to support my child in elementary school?

HEARTS is our elementary program available to TK-6th graders. HEARTS offers homework support, daily physical activity, social emotional support and academic enrichment activities beginning at the end of the instructional day until 6:00 pm Monday through Friday. HEARTS is currently offered at 20 elementary schools. Please note that our HEARTS Program will expand to all elementary sites by January 2023. Please contact your school site for more information on how to sign-up and the time frame for the expected start of the program for your particular school.

2. How do I register my child for HEARTS?

You can register your child for HEARTS by clicking on the link for the school that your child attends.

HEARTS			
Adams	Fremont	Jefferson	Monroe
Alcott	Hawthorne	Liberty	Mt. View
Beatty	Highgrove	Longfellow	Pachappa
Bryant	Highland	Madison	Victoria
Emerson	Jackson	Magnolia	Washington

3. What free middle school program is available to support my child?

PRIME Time is our middle school program. PRIME Time offers homework support, daily physical activity, social emotional support and academic enrichment activities beginning at the end of the instructional day until 6:00 pm Monday through Friday. It is available at 6 middle schools. We plan to expand to all middle schools by the end of the school year.

4. How do I register my child for PRIME Time?

You can register your middle school child for PRIME Time by clicking on the link for the school that your child attends.

PRIME Time		
Central	Earhart	Sierra
Chemawa	Gage	Uni

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5. Who do I contact for information about the Expanded Learning Programs (HEARTS and PRIME Time)?

For more information, you can contact your child's school or [Geri Castro](#), the Expanded Learning Programs Coordinator at 951-788-7135 ext. 80722.

Meals

1. Where and when is meal service available?

All school sites will provide breakfast and lunch on site. All meals are served at no cost, no matter the student's eligibility.

2. Do I have to fill out a [School Funding Form](#) (formerly known as meal application) for my child this school year?

If your student is newly enrolled to Riverside Unified School District, your household is required to complete the School Funding Form. Households should submit a School Funding Form for all RUSD students, regardless of the program. All persons living in the same household should be added to the School Funding Form as a "household member," including infants, toddlers, teens, and other adults. To submit a School Funding Form, please visit https://www.riversideunified.org/departments/nutritionservices/meal_applications_and_r_u_s_d_funding_forms or call Nutrition Services at 951-352-6740.

3. Can all of my children receive a meal, even if they are not enrolled in a Riverside Unified School District School?

Nutrition Services will provide meals to students enrolled in Riverside Unified School District only.

4. Our household does not qualify for the Meal Program, how do I pay for my student's meals?

As of July 2022, all students, no matter their income, will receive meals at no cost.

5. I pay for my child's lunch and there is still money in their Paypams account. How do I request a refund?

Click [HERE](#) to complete a Nutrition Services Refund Request form. You will receive a notification from Nutrition Services within 3 business days after the refund form is received.

Transportation

1. When will I receive information about my child's bus route?

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Transit bus route information for the Elementary Students who are eligible for transportation will be mailed out on 7/29. Special Education drivers are making parent phone calls on 8/2 and 8/3.

2. Who do I contact if I need information on my child's bus route?

Families are welcome to call the transportation department at 951-352-6789 for further information.