



TWO DISTRICTS. ONE MISSION.



Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 - Nippersink SD 2

WINTER 2019-20



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Football Team Wins!

Check out our New Websites

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

It is an honor and a privilege to continue serving all the stakeholders in the villages of Richmond and Spring Grove. As superintendent of schools for both Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 and Nippersink SD 2, I want to share just a few of the wonderful things happening every day in our schools.

Since 2009, both districts have continued to look for ways to maintain efficiency, keep costs low and still provide a world class education for all of our students. One way both districts' boards have achieved this is through a shared services model that shares a superintendent and other key staff and administrative positions. Through this organizational model, both District 157 and District 2 are able to save significant money in personnel and other programming costs. In addition, our shared service model allows for better alignment of the K-12 curriculum, a common mission and a significant cost savings to the taxpayers. Both boards of education continue to examine this shared service model to ensure both districts continue to remain fiscally efficient while delivering an excellent education to our students.

In addition, both Nippersink SD 2 and Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 are currently involved in developing a long-term facility management plan in cooperation with an outside engineering firm. This long-term facility plan will allow us to examine the condition and infrastructure of our buildings, current and future student programming needs and the development of a scheduled maintenance plan for our districts' schools over time. Another top priority in developing this plan is to ensure the highest safety and security of our schools. There is no greater issue in schools across America today than the safety and security of our students and this remains a daily priority for all of the administrators, teachers and students in both of our districts.

Finally, Richmond-Burton Community High School was recognized by *US News and World Report* as a top high school in Illinois for 2019. In addition, the Nippersink Middle School, Richmond Grade School and Richmond-Burton Community High School were also recognized by *Chicago Magazine's Best Public Schools Edition* in their September 2019 publication. Good things are happening every day in our schools! We look forward to continuing to work with our students, staff, families and communities to inspire, challenge and educate all our students.

Dr. Tom Lind, Superintendent of Schools

Follow me on Twitter @DrTomLind



FOOTBALL TEAM WINS IL 4A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP!

The 2019 football season was the most successful season RB has ever had. The team finished with a record of 14 wins and 0 losses and topped off the season with a dominant 50-14 win over Murphysboro to win the IL 4A State Championship. Senior Dalton Wood was named both offensive and defensive player of the year by the Kishwaukee River Conference. Other RB players named to the KRC Conference All Star Team were Logan Hutson, Logan Grant, Nick Legnaioli, Jacob Peterson, Nick Ross, Luke Eckardt, Jacob Huber, Rey Guajardo and Brock Wood.

The team was led by IL Coaching Hall of Fame Coach Mike Noll. Coach Noll is in his thirtieth year of coaching and has made it to the playoffs 28 of those years. He has 249 victories and was recently named the Chicago Bears High School Coach of the Year. In addition to this honor, he is also the Chicago Bears nominee for the Don Shula National High School Football Coach of the Year.



THE STEAM PROGRAM

The STEAM program involves real world application with Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, and some teachers are working to incorporate the Arts (STEAM). This approach helps prepare students for the future with hands-on critical thinking and collaborative problem solving activities. Students get to experience a variety of materials and technology tools relating to circuitry, mechanics and structures, robotics, software engineering, sustainability, digital communications and computer graphics.

"When you walk into STEAM class you have time to learn and make things you never thought you could make."

- Lauren Metzler, 6th grade

STEAM is one of the exploratory classes at the middle school while the high school immerses all students in the STEAM program. Middle school students can take STEAM for one quarter (nine weeks) each year. Lego robotics team is also offered in the fall as well as a

STEAM Club after school program in the winter. This program continues to grow and flourish as STEAM becomes a way of life for so many.

This approach is so great for students because when they are presented with a problem or task, they practice communicating their ideas with one another and then are able to organize them in a way to be shared. The majority of the problem

"It's a good way to learn new things in a different way. It's fun to use technology and build things."

- Gracie Milligan, 6th grade

solving is done by students. Teachers set up the lesson and give them knowledge and tools but then step back and allow the learning to really take shape. Students also create their own plan and SMART goal for each activity.

"STEM let's you be creative with things you can use in the real world."

- Marisa Wisniewski, 6th grade

Both districts have been so fortunate to be able to use the new STEAM labs as they give students the opportunity to create! The labs have MacBooks, monitors and flexible

seating to put students in the perfect learning environment. The STEAM labs were created to allow students to learn in a more open-ended way and to apply what they have learned to real life. STEAM education is crucial to educate and prepare the next generation of the American, and global, workforce and to allow this generation to create jobs and grow the economy.

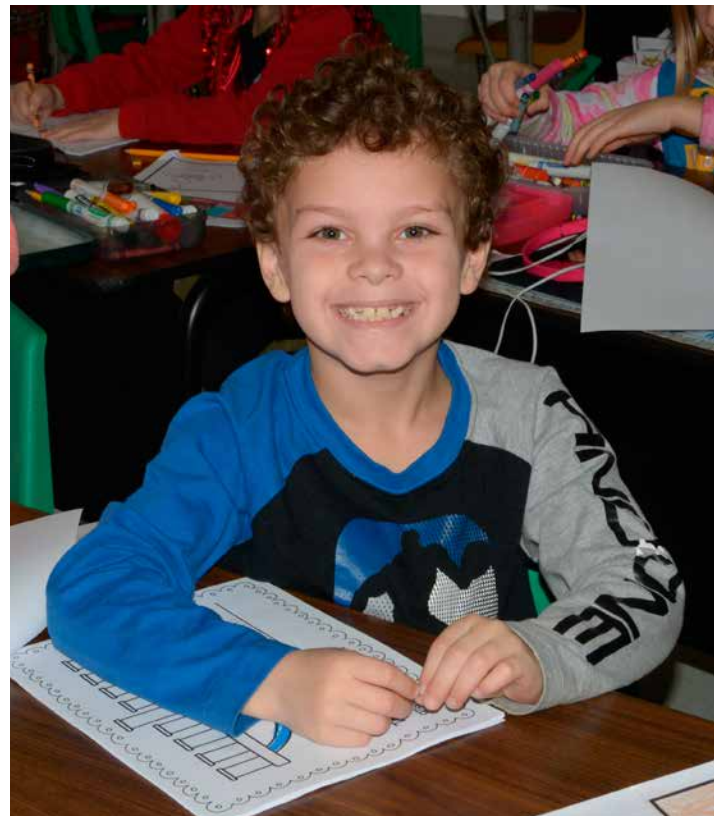
CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITES

The school website is one of the most effective tools that can improve communication, engage parents, market strengths and share around the community. This year both the Richmond-Burton and the Nippersink websites have been updated to create a more user-friendly experience by consolidating various social media platforms and communication tools.

It's important that our community knows that information from our district can come via various means, and the new websites create an opportunity to provide the kind of flexibility our users want. Make sure to check out the News section, Events and Live feed panes on the main page. These three types of information will provide the community with the most relevant and useful information. Essentially, they will provide effective insight to what's happening right now.

In addition to providing information right on the website and via social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook, Richmond-Burton and Nippersink will soon be launching its very own app for each district, for those who truly want to stay in the know.

As a district, Richmond-Burton and Nippersink is very excited about the new opportunities this new platform provides and look forward to sharing the story of our district in new and meaningful ways. Please find the link to our new websites on the back page.



5TH AND 6TH GRADE TRANSITION CAMP

Middle school can be an uncertain time for many students. On top of the normal middle school age changes, students are also required to learn how to go to a new school with new routines and procedures.

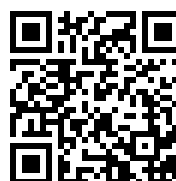
This past August, the staff at Nippersink Middle School set out to make this the easiest and most fun transition students could have in their academic career. They called it Transition Camp! The transition camp was designed to help ease the transition from fifth to sixth grade. The goal of the four day camp is to learn all about the middle school environment and what it means to be a middle school student. Those who attended camp had the opportunity to:

- Meet their teachers and make new friendships
- Practice their schedules and locker combinations
- Interact with all of our technology platforms
- Familiarize themselves with the building and classrooms
- Learn how to use their assignment notebook
- Learn about exploratory classes such as Art, STEAM, STEM and Spanish
- Explore all aspects of the school day
- Learn what it means to be a good citizen of Nippersink Middle School and how to make a positive impact on our school community
- Participate in team building activities

Each student was given a camp t-shirt in which they tie-dyed as one of their activities!

By the first day of school the students who attended were much more comfortable and there was no loss of time of instruction having to get students acclimated to the middle school. Students were not nervous at all on the first day of school and knew exactly where all their classes were. Teachers were able to build strong connections with the students before the school year even began.

For an inside look at the camp, please use this code to watch a quick YouTube video.



YOU'RE INVITED!

RICHMOND-BURTON CHSD 157

The Richmond-Burton Community H.S. Board of Education holds regular board meetings on the third Wednesday of each calendar month at 7:30 p.m. The meetings are to be held in the District Administrative Center at 4213 US HWY 12, Richmond, Illinois. You are invited to attend these meetings. We look forward to seeing you there.

SCHOOL BOARD

Michelle Graham President
Joe Keim Vice-President
Christine Alvarado Secretary
Michael Baird Member
Steve Holtz Member
Jennifer Reed Member
Dave Thomas Member

NIPPERSINK SD 2

The Nippersink School District 2 Board of Education holds regular board meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each calendar month at 7:00 pm, unless otherwise noted on the posted meeting agenda. The meetings are to be held in the District Administrative Center at 4213 US HWY 12, Richmond, Illinois. You are invited to attend these meetings. We look forward to seeing you there.

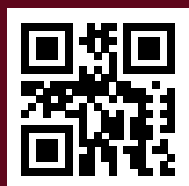
SCHOOL BOARD

Bert Irlinger President
Pierre Langlois Vice-President
Gary Kriz Secretary
Marcy Garrison Member
Elke Kleisch Member
April Kyes Member
Liz Young Member

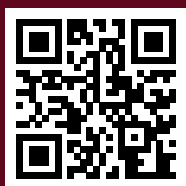
OUR PHONE NUMBERS

Richmond-Burton Community H.S. (815) 678-4525
Nippersink Middle School (815) 678-7129
Spring Grove Elementary (815) 678-6750
Richmond Grade School (815) 678-4717

OUR WEBSITES:



www.rb157.org



www.nippersinkdistrict2.org



Richmond-Burton CHSD 157 - Nippersink SD 2
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RICHMOND-BURTON SCHOOL CALENDAR 2019-20

Feb. 17 Non-Attendance Day
March 23-27 Non-Attendance Days
April 10 Non-Attendance Days
April 13 Non-Attendance Days
May 24 RB Graduation (1:00 pm at RB)
May 25 Non-Attendance Day
May 27 Last Student Day (with no emergency days used)
May 28-June 3 Emergency Days (subtract one for each of five emergency days not used)

NIPPERSINK SCHOOL CALENDAR 2019-20

Feb. 14 Teacher Institute Day (no student attendance)
Feb. 17 Non-Attendance Day
March 13 Early Dismissal (Middle School 10:50; Grade School 11:45)
March 18 3rd Quarter
March 23-27 Non-Attendance Day
April 9 Early Dismissal (Middle School 10:50; Grade School 11:45)
April 10 Non-Attendance Day
April 13 Non-Attendance Day
May 8 Early Dismissal (Middle School 10:50; Grade School 11:45)
May 25 Non-Attendance Day
May 26 8th Grade Graduation (6:30 p.m. at RBCHS)
May 28 Last Day Student Attendance (with no emergency days used)
May 29-June 5 Emergency Day (subtract one for each of five emergency days not used)