



Riverside Public School | September 2025 Newsletter

P. Atack - Principal, B. Tamasi – Vice Principal
K. Kramer – Administrative Assistant, L. McLean - Secretary
J. Beynon - Superintendent

Principal's Message

Welcome back to school, Riverside Rams!

The Riverside Public School staff are excited to welcome both returning and new students to the 2025-26 school year! The team has been working diligently to prepare the school and classrooms for the return of students – with special thanks to the custodial team for their tireless efforts all summer. The school looks wonderful, and we are all very much looking forward to a fantastic year ahead. We hope students (and their parents / guardians) are as excited as we are for the start of a new school year!

We will be welcoming new community members to Riverside PS, students and staff alike. As such, our first days of school will be dedicated to establishing relationships and re-establishing school routines and classroom norms. A highlight for our first week of school will be our 'Welcome Back' assembly for all students and staff, scheduled for Friday, September 5th.

On a personal note, I want to express thanks to those who have already reached out to Mrs. Tamasi and I to welcome us to the school community. It is already abundantly evident that Riverside Public School is a special place. We look forward to connecting with your children in the coming days, and to working with you as partners in your children's learning journey.

Enjoy these final days of summer holiday!

Sincerely,

Peter Atack

Principal, Riverside Public School

First Day Procedures

Wednesday, September 3rd is the first day of the 2025-26 school year for all Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8 students. Please be reminded that Tuesday, September 2nd is a PA Day at all TVDSB Schools – to allow for staff to engage in mandated annual training and professional learning.

Beginning at 8:45am on Wednesday, staff will be positioned on the yard holding their respective grade sign (e.g. SK, Gr. 2/3, Gr. 4) and students are asked to gather at the appropriate location. When the bell rings at 9:00am, the staff will have their class lineup before saying farewell to family members and entering the school.



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In the event of heavy rain, students will be welcomed into the building at 8:45am with SK students directed to their classrooms, grades 1-3 to the Activity Room, and grades 4-8 to the Gymnasium.

A reminder for Kindergarten families that only SK students are to attend on Wednesday, with JK students who have a last name that starts with A-J starting on Thursday, and all remaining JK students joining on Friday.

School begins at 9am and ends at 3:30pm. Parents are welcome on the tarmac for pick up and drop off. A reminder for dogs to be leashed and remain off the school yard, please. We love our furry friends; however, our yard is a dog-free zone during drop off and dismissal. Thank you for your understanding.

Class Placements

Please know that class placement is a complex process that occurs during the spring term of the previous school year. The process involves members of your child's learning team who thoughtfully determine class placement to optimize student success. Schools are required to adhere to class size guidelines and as such, **class placement change requests cannot be accommodated after school start on Wednesday, September 3rd.**

Cell Phones

Please be reminded of the following rules as per the [TVDSB Code of Conduct](#) (2025).

Students in **Kindergarten to Grade 6**, must keep mobile devices silent and out of sight during the school day, unless explicitly allowed by a teacher.

Students in **Grades 7-12**, are not allowed to use mobile devices during class time, unless explicitly allowed by a teacher.

Absences and Lates from school & protocols

If your student is going to be absent from school, please ensure you report the absence by calling call 1-844-305-3756, using School Messenger online at www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger, or the School Messenger App.

Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical / Health Conditions in Schools

To ensure children with **potentially life-threatening medical conditions** remain safe while attending school, TVDSB requests Parents/Guardians update the necessary medical information on the [Parent Portal](#) so that an Individual Plan of Care (IPOC) for the student can be reviewed by the school's administration. Medical conditions considered potentially life-threatening may include:



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Parents/Guardians can provide important information about their child's life-threatening or prevalent medical condition by logging into the TVDSB Parent Portal and clicking on the following tab: **Student Medical Information**. Once an Individual Plan of Care is submitted, the school administrator will then review the information. Parents/Guardians may be contacted for further information, if required.

Parents/Guardians who cannot access the Parent Portal should contact the school office. Please note that Parents/Guardians are expected to be active participants in supporting the management of their student's prevalent medical condition(s) while the student is in school. **It is the responsibility of Parents/Guardians to inform the school of such conditions to ensure the student's safety at school.**

Updating Student Information in the Parent Portal

Please be reminded to log into the [Parent Portal](#) and update information and consents for the 2025-26 school year. If this can be completed by September 12th, it will be greatly appreciated.

Student Insurance Options

We'd like to share information about two optional insurance providers that offer coverage for certain medical expenses not included under OHIP. These services may be helpful for families seeking additional protection for their children.

Please note: this insurance is entirely optional and not required for school attendance. Sharing this information is simply intended to support families who may find it useful.

For details about the providers and coverage options, please refer to the following:

<https://www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com/>

<https://insuremykids.com>

Riverside Daily Schedule

9:00am - Entry bell

9:00-10:40am: INSTRUCTIONAL BLOCK 1

10:40-11:30am: First nutrition break (25 minutes to eat, 25 minutes to play outside)

11:30am-1:30pm: INSTRUCTIONAL BLOCK 2

1:30-2:10pm: Second nutrition break (20 minutes to eat, 20 minutes to play outside)

2:10-3:30pm: INSTRUCTIONAL BLOCK 3

3:30pm - Dismissal

Students Leaving School During Nutrition Breaks (Gr. 4-8)



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Students will only be permitted to leave school property during Nutrition Breaks after a parent/guardian has provided permission in the [Parent Portal](#). Students permitted to leave property during Nutrition Breaks will do so under the care and supervision of their parent/guardian for the duration.

Music Notes from Ms. Rees

Welcome to another year of Music at Riverside! I am looking forward to creating exceptional music with our Rams. For those of you who are new to Riverside, our Music calendar is very active and always being updated. Regular updates will be sent home to the monthly newsletter.

In the meantime, here are some **KEY DATES** for you to **SAVE** on your **FAMILY** calendar.

- Winter Concert - Wednesday, December 10th for Junior and Intermediate students at 12 pm and 6 pm
- Winter Concert - Thursday, December 11th for the Kindy and Primary students at 12 pm and 6 pm
- Friday, January 30th - London Knights O Canada - this is a competition between the classes - more information to come
- Kiwanis Music Festival for the choirs is the first two weeks of April
- Summer Send- Off is Wednesday, June 10th, 2026 (Food Trucks, Kindergarten, Choirs, some classes and Band)

Rehearsal Schedules: Start Up in a few weeks

- Primary Choir will be on Tuesdays at 11 am
- Junior and Intermediate Choir will be on Wednesdays at 11 am
- Band will be on Wednesday mornings at 7:45 am

As you can see, we have a busy and exciting schedule ahead of us. I cannot wait to make music with your musicians!

With gratitude,
Ms. Rees

Important Dates:

- Tuesday, September 2nd - PA Day - no school for students
- Wednesday, September 3rd - FIRST day of school for SK to Grade 8
- **Monday, September 8th** - School Council (6pm) and Home & School (6:30pm) Meetings in the library
- Thursday, September 25th - Meet the Family Night and Corn Roast **(TIME)**
- Tuesday, September 30th – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation / Orange Shirt Day
- Friday, October 10th - PA Day
- **Thursday, November 7th** - School Picture Day



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2025-26 PA Days:

- Tuesday, September 2, 2025
- Friday, October 10, 2025
- Friday, November 14, 2025
- Friday, January 30, 2026
- Friday, April 24, 2026
- Friday, May 29, 2026
- Friday, June 26, 2026

2025-26 School Holidays:

Thanksgiving: October 13, 2025
Winter Break: December 22, 2025 - January 2, 2026
Family Day: February 16, 2026
Spring Break: March 16 - March 20, 2026
Good Friday: April 3, 2026
Easter Monday: April 6, 2026
Victoria Day: May 18, 2026