



# THE PIRATE POST

RIVERSIDE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY'S OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Dear Families,

Happy Friday, and welcome to another edition of, "The Pirate Post"! We are excited to highlight all of the things we are doing to prepare for our students to come on August 14th! As our parking lot and landscaping is being finished in the next couple of weeks, you will see the arrival of our buses! We are proud to offer a community-stop bus option for families. While charter schools are not required to offer busing, we wanted to ensure that families from all areas of Craven County had the opportunity to choose RLA for their children's educational needs.

We continue to strive to meet the needs of our community, and are thrilled to have added a fourth kindergarten class! We are looking forward to welcoming in 20 more students from our wait list! If your family received an offer, be sure to accept as soon as possible and complete the registration process to secure your spot. Our teachers will start the first week in August, and we will be working tirelessly to get our school ready for students, contact families, and plan out the school year. Families can expect to hear from their child's Personal Adult Advocate (PAA) prior to our "Sneak-a-Peek" on August 12th. We hope that you enjoy all of the updates in this newsletter. Be sure to keep watching our social media accounts and website, as we will continue to introduce our RLA teachers and staff, and highlight all of the exciting things happening as they occur.

Happy sailing!

Your Leadership Team, *Siobhan Brewer and Kelli Miller*

### Important Events

**August 1st- Campus officially opens for staff, Beginning Teacher Orientation**

**August 12th- "Sneak-a-Peek" 3:30pm-6:30pm; Families are invited to come onsite to meet their teachers and tour our campus.**

**August 13th- Kindergarten Orientation  
Last Names beginning with letters A-G,  
9:15am-10:15am**

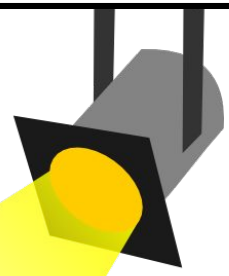
**Last Names beginning with letters H-Z,  
10:45am-11:45am**

**August 14th- First Day of School, Half day for Kindergarten students**

**August 14th-16th- Half days for Kindergarten students, 12pm dismissal (carpool only; afternoon buses will not be available for kinders on these days)**

### **This month's spotlight is on: My Hot Lunch Box**

Partnering with local vendors, My Hot Lunch Box provides students and families the opportunity to have fresh, hot lunches delivered daily.



Riverside Leadership Academy will utilize My Hot Lunchbox for the 2024-2025 school year.

At this time, we are excited to announce that we will be partnering with La Casetta, Moore's BBQ, Jersey Mike's Subs, and Pizza Hut for the upcoming semester.

My Hot Lunch Box will ensure that there is a daily meat-free and gluten-free option for families. Lunches will be priced reasonably, and there will be options for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch. Orders must be in by 12pm the day prior. Our school account should be ready next week, at which point we will be able to share the lunch flyer with the weekly lineup and vendor menus.

Stay tuned for updates on our website about how to create your account, download the app, and more!

## COUNTDOWN TO AUGUST! FAQs

Here are the answers to some of the most commonly asked questions to help you prepare for the school year.

### When are the school hours and what will schedules look like?

*School will officially begin at 8:00 am, with carpool beginning at 7:30 am. We will dismiss at 3:00 pm on regular days and at 12:00 pm on half days. Students will receive information about their assigned teachers and their schedules at the Sneak-a-Peek event on August 12th, from 3:30 pm-6:30 pm.*

### What communication tool will your school be using?

*We will have two communication tools utilized at RLA. The first, Infinite Campus, will be used to share important information about grades, absences, and other operational items. This will offer a parent portal that gives families access to their child's information, will allow them to put money on their accounts for lunches/field trips, etc. We will also utilize Class Dojo. This app will mostly be utilized by teachers for one-on-one correspondence and to communicate about fun events and happenings in our school. Teachers will share out more about these platforms during the first week of school.*

### What security measures will be in place at RLA?

*We are in collaboration with the local sheriff to ensure that our campus is as safe as possible for our students, staff, and families. We are excited to announce that our local County Commissioners, committed to the safety and well-being of all students in our county, recently voted to help provide funding for an on-site SRO! We are grateful for this decision and will have more information about campus safety in the coming weeks.*

### Will students be served breakfast at school?

*We will not have a breakfast program at school. Students and families should make arrangements for students to eat breakfast prior to coming to school. However, we will have a breakfast cabinet with limited items for students who forget to eat. Parents will receive more information about this at our Sneak-a-Peek.*

### Will RLA have a playground on-site?

*We will have a playground, but cannot provide a definite timeline at this time. Students will have access to outside toys, chalk, and ample space during designated recess times. All students in grades K-7 will have recess daily, with students in K-3 getting two recesses during the school day.*

### Do you have an update on additional community stops?

*We have added to the initial list, as follows:*

AMC Movie Theater, Havelock, NC  
Wells Wayside Furniture, Havelock, NC  
C-Stone Church, James City, NC  
Down East Ace Hardware, New Bern, NC  
Port City Community Church, New Bern, NC  
Kites Supermarket, Vanceboro, NC  
JL Kirkman's Antiques, Bridgeton, NC

*At this time, we are awaiting confirmation for one more potential stop in New Bern. Aside from this, we do not plan to add any additional stops at this time.*

# Important



## DID YOU KNOW?

We need your documents! If you have updated immunization forms, medical forms, IEPs, or any other documentation requested in Schoolmint, you can send these items to the following email: [john@chartersuccesspartners.com](mailto:john@chartersuccesspartners.com)

## After School Programs

**We will be partnering with the YMCA to provide an on-site, after school care opportunity for our students and families.**

The cost is \$60/week for members and \$80/week for non-members. Families can sign-up at <https://ecymca.org/>

**For families looking for an off-site option, we will be partnering with these community partners as well:**

Johnson's TKD Martial Arts.-To sign-up, go to [www.johnsonstkd.com](http://www.johnsonstkd.com)

C-Stone Church- Send an email to [enrich@nbcstone.com](mailto:enrich@nbcstone.com)

**We are currently waiting to hear back from other community partners to confirm additional options for families.**



## Dress Code Update

Riverside Leadership Academy's Board of Directors created a dress code to help promote unity by encouraging a sense of belonging and pride in the school community. It also is designed to discourage bullying, victimization, and socio-economic discrimination. Our dress code provides an equal starting point for all students; donning school colors and spirit wear daily will help to establish a community of inclusiveness where students do not feel they have to compete to look better/dress better than their peers.

There is enough flexibility in the types of clothing allowed, styles allowed, fabrics used, etc. to support students' diverse preferences and to account for potential issues, such as sensory-processing needs. Students who thrive on individuality or being unique have opportunities to express this in their hairstyles, shoes, backpacks, and other accessories. We will also have spirit wear options available in the future that incorporate more colors for those who feel too restricted with the blue/gray/white/black color palette.

With this dress code in place, students will learn to utilize their skills, talents, knowledge, personalities, creativity, and other amazing traits as they form meaningful relationships within their school community.

## Spirit Wear Update

**We are partnering with a local vendor to provide an opportunity for families to purchase spirit wear for this upcoming school year. Families who order before August 16th can take advantage of a special discount. To order, please click the link below. For questions about spirit wear, please email: [granieri@riversideleadershipacademy.org](mailto:granieri@riversideleadershipacademy.org)**

<https://forms.gle/TyW1HRxNBr9nf6SG9>

**WE "ARGH" LOOKING FORWARD  
to seeing you soon!!!**