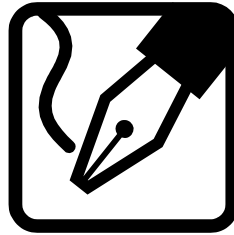


# RIVERWOOD REPORTER



The mission of Riverwood Elementary School is to accomplish the following:

"To nurture the development of the total child;  
To foster a love of learning;  
To provide instruction in the basic skills required for active, involved, and responsible citizenship in our school, community, and country;  
And to maintain an environment that promotes the safety, well-being, intellectual stimulation, mutual respect, and enthusiasm of all students, staff, and families, alike."

VOLUME XXI, NUMBER 1 August 21, 2009

"TOGETHER we make our school a SUCCESS!"

Mrs. Kathie Robinson, Principal  
[krobinson@d15.org](mailto:krobinson@d15.org)

Mr. Will Hibler, Asst. Principal  
[whibler@d15.org](mailto:whibler@d15.org)

## DATES TO REMEMBER...

Friday, August 21	PTO Back to School Picnic 5:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.
Monday, August 24	Fifth grade after school band starts from 3:50 P.M.-4:50 P.M.
Wednesday, August 26	Open House for Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade at 7:00 P.M.
Thursday, August 27	Open House for Third, Fourth and Fifth Grades at 7:00 P.M.
Monday, September 1	Fall Picture Day
Thursday, September 3	PTO Fall Fundraiser packets home.
Friday, September 4	Red and Blue Day-Wear our school colors to show your school spirit.

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**WELCOME BACK FROM THE PRINCIPAL...**It has been a busy summer at Riverwood School. Our classrooms, doors, cafeteria and gymnasium got a fresh coat of paint. We also got new phones, P.A. system, security system on our outside doors, clocks, computer tables, electrical work and outlet and light switch covers. Our playgrounds and parking lot got a fresh coat of blacktop and lines on them. Our custodial staff, district maintenance team, and technology department did a fantastic job with Riverwood. I'm anxious for you to see it during our Open Houses.

I would like to welcome all of our new personnel. Joining our Riverwood team are Mrs. Angela Curry, secretary, Ms. Meghan Sullivan, second grade teacher, Mrs. Julie Podgorski, SES (Structured Educational Setting) classroom teacher, Ms. Caitlin Smulski, music teacher, Mr. Mark Reichert, technology teacher, Mrs. Lori Gonzales, reading assistant, Mrs. Sarah Bowyer, reading specialist, Mrs. Barbara Sander, reading specialist, Mrs. Megan Waxler, ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher, Mrs. Tracy Boldog, SSA (Supplemental Student Assistant), Ms. Sally Hanley, SSA, Ms. Susan O'Brien, SSA, Ms. Laura Rice, SSA, Ms. Donna Rost, SSA, Ms. Maria Arza, SSA, Mrs. Rita Tartagila, SSA, and Mr. Josh Van Dyke, night custodian.

Besides our new staff members, we have many new students and their families coming to Riverwood for the first time. We extend our most heartfelt and gracious welcome to all of you! Finally, we would like to welcome back all of our continuing staff members, students, and families. We are glad you all are here. We hope that it is an excellent year for all!

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**SOME IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR PARENTS...**One of our school rules is safety. We ask that you remember the following:

1. **We keep our busses separate from our car riders at arrival and dismissal times.** We ask that parents driving their children to school **enter the circle in front of the building at the south end and proceed to the north end of the circle, where there is supervision and where you may drop off your children. The busses will drop off and pick up in the back of the building. It is best if cars are not driven in that area.** Parents who find it necessary to enter from the back where the busses enter are reminded that **you cannot pass school busses that have their stop arms extended.**
2. Arrival time is 8:45 A.M. That is the time that our supervisors go on duty to watch the children on the playground. Students are **not to arrive at school prior to 8:45 A.M.** We cannot have them unsupervised on the school grounds.
3. If your child is late to school and the classes have left the playground, please park in the circle, **escort him or her into the building, stop in the office to report that he or she is here,** and obtain a pass for him or her to go to class.
4. When picking up your students after school, **if they are usually bus riders you must sign them out and pick them up in the office.** No other adults other than Riverwood staff are allowed in the hallways during departure times for security purposes.
5. When visiting our school, **please sign in at the office where you will obtain a name tag to wear** in the hallway so that our staff knows that you have business in the building. Again, this is for security purposes.

**BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC...**The PTO will be hosting a Back to School Picnic on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, from 5:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M. Families are invited to come to get to know one another. Food and drink will be for sale. Hope to see you there.

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**OPEN HOUSES...**There is a Parent Information Night for kindergarten, first grade and second grade on Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 P.M. Third, fourth, and fifth grades have their Open House on Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 P.M. We will meet in the gym first for introductions before going into the classrooms.

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**PICTURE DAY...**Fall Picture Day is Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. Don't forget to bring your picture order and money, if you wish to order pictures, and your smile. ☺

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**NO SCHOOL...**There will be no school on Monday, September 7, in observance of Labor Day.

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**PUBLIC FORUM...** On September 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 P.M.-7:30 P.M. at Parkland School, the McHenry Elementary School District 15 Board of Education will be holding a public forum to solicit community input. The Board of Education is in the process of updating the district's strategic plan and would like to hear any ideas citizens may have to improve the education for all of our students. The current strategic plan is detailed on the district's website at [www.d15.org](http://www.d15.org). Please attend and offer your opinions. In addition, a survey will be available on the district's website by which you may offer your input.

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**Run Your Life Community Clubs for Kids...Registration for '09-'10 Run Your Life Community Clubs for Kids is now open! Our Club Run Your Life age-based programs** are the means to which we promote our core principles. They've been designed for children to have a safe place to learn, grow, have fun, and accept themselves fully. **Run Your Life was created as an addition to children's lives**, not in replacement of any activity they are already involved in; **a fun community club**. We believe that a **solid sense of community** is important in guiding children and creating a connectedness **Run** among its members. **We encourage kids to come as often as they can and we look forward to having them join in!**

**What are our core principles?**

- \* **Running Our Lives:** Taking charge of our lives; not blaming others
- \* **I Am Amazing!:** Everyone is amazing; embracing exactly who we are as well as respecting everyone for who they are as well
- \* **Response-ability:** If we're feeling it, it's ours; we choose how we respond to situations
- \* **It's All About Choices:** All choices have consequences, choose wisely; The choice game
- \* **We're All in This Together:** Taking care of each other and the planet; Community 101: Plugging in

**When and where do Clubs Run Your Life for Kids meet? (2nd & 4th Saturdays)**

Sept. 26, Oct. 10 & 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9 & 23, Feb. 13 & 27, and Mar. 6<sup>th</sup>

\***K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 9-10:15AM, Edgebrook Elementary School, McHenry**

\***3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 10:15-11:30AM, Edgebrook Elementary School, McHenry**

\***6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 6:30-8PM, Duker School, McHenry**

Our group is **very social** and **"group oriented"**. **Come "hang" with us!**

**Family Open Gym & Game Time**

**When and where is Family Open Gym & Game Time?**

**Sunday afternoons, 12:30-2PM during the winter:**

Nov. 8, 15, 29, Dec. 6, 13, 20. Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, and Feb. 7, 21, and 28.

**All families must fill out an activity release form and All children must be accompanied by their parent/guardian.**

This is a great opportunity to get out of the house during the cold weather and play with your family. Come shoot some hoops in the gym or play a board game in the café...feel free to bring a favorite game from home. Remember to bring your basketball!

**How do I join? Easy!** Simply fill out an activity release form and send it in!

Each participant is required to have one on file in order to participate. Individual and family activity release forms are available on our website: [www.runyourlife.org](http://www.runyourlife.org)

**Each participant must be registered to attend.**

**Questions?** Please contact Charlene at: [runyourlife@sbcglobal.net](mailto:runyourlife@sbcglobal.net) or call 815.861.5074

Mark Your Calendars! Bingo Fundraiser for Adults Only at The Moose Lodge, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>.

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