RIVERSIDE LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Winter 2025 • Vol. 27, Iss. 1 www.**riversidelocalschools**.com www.facebook.com/riversidelocalschools **9**@RLSD_Beavers Riverside Local Schools

RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Celebrating 75 Years!

Communicating With Our Community

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Our MISSION . . . Through a culture of excellence, immerse students in educational opportunities and empower them to excel in an interconnected world.

marks the 75th anniversary of Riverside High School first opening its doors to staff and students. In September of 1949, a partially completed Riverside High School building of 15 classrooms opened its doors to 374 students in grades 7, 8, and 9. Grades 10 and 11 were added in 1950 and it wasn't until 1952 when Riverside High School had its first graduating class.

Riverside High School principal and John R. Williams was the Superintendent. Plans for a auditorium and gymnasium,

The 2024-2025 school year cafeteria got underway in 1951 and a library, laboratories and additional classrooms were added in 1954. Construction began on the John R. Williams side of the building in 1955 and that building was opened in 1956.

celebrate 75th To the anniversary, join us for a 75th Anniversary Celebration and Open House at Riverside High School on Saturday, March 15 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. This Henry LaMuth was the event is being put on by the Riverside Alumni Association, Riverside High School Student Council and Riverside Campus and District Administration.



The event will feature a pancake breakfast, tours throughout the building, opportunities to see old artifacts, what's new, what's changed and the chance to catch up with old classmates.

While there is no requirement to RSVP for the Open House, we do ask that individuals RSVP for the pancake breakfast that will occur from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. RSVPs can be submitted on the District website.

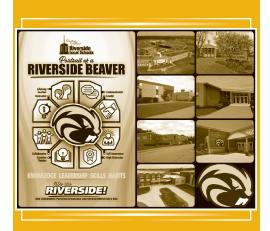


DISTRICT

Improvements Completed, Planned

2025-2030 and Beyond RIVERSIDE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE YEAR FACILITIES PLAN

District Facilities



At the start of the 2024-2025 school year, the District opened up its new security vestibules at Riverside Campus, LaMuth Middle School, Buckeye Elementary and Melridge Elementary. Every building in the District now has two layers of entrance doors with a transaction window in between. These updated entrances allow for visitors to be properly vetted between two sets of locked doors before entering each building. The transaction window allows for visitors to drop off deliveries without ever having to enter the building.

The District has also been continuing to work on the Career Technical Education building addition at Riverside Campus. In the Spring of 2024, the District was awarded a \$2.5 million grant from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce to complete this project. This roughly 4,500 square foot addition is scheduled to be completed and

Board Of Education Update

On August 1, 2024, Dennis Keeney was

Board of Education following the resignation of

Jennifer Harden. Mr. Keeney is a lifelong resident

of Lake County and has lived in Leroy Township

for the past 37 years with his wife and their four

children. He is a retired registered landscape

architect and a retired certified general real estate

appraiser having worked with engineering, appraisal and acquisition firms and also self-employed. He

also served 15 years on the Leroy Township Zoning

occupied by the Spring of 2026.

On September 26, 2024, the Board of Education voted to build an eight-classroom addition on Riverview Elementary. Both ThenDesign Architects (TDA) and Cleveland Construction have been hired to complete that project.

On December 19, 2024, the Board voted to approve the District's Five Year Facilities Plan and Beyond — which includes building a 12-classroom addition and new gymnasium at Buckeye Elementary along with various other updates and improvements to all District facilities.

On January 8, 2025, the Board voted to purchase approximately 3.65 acres of vacant land immediately adjacent to Riverview Elementary in the amount of \$75,000 per acre.

The District's Five Year Facilities Plan and Beyond and a running timeline of facilities updates can be viewed on the District website.

DISTRICT

Commission.



Dennis Keeney

DISTRICT

Visiting Our Schools?

The District is using a new visitor management system in all our schools called Visitor Aware to help strengthen our safety and security for students and staff. Visitors can now pre-register online via the District website prior to visiting the school to speed-up the check-in process.

Visitor Aware uses facial recognition and an individual's driver's license or state ID to check visitors against national databases before granting them access into the building. Once approved, the system will produce a badge that identifies the visitor.

If not pre-registering online, we ask that

We would like to thank Mrs. appointed to the Riverside Local School District Harden for her commitment, service and dedication to the District during her 10 years on the Board.

In January of 2025, the Board set meeting dates for 2025 as well as

Jennifer Harden

assigned Committee Appointments and Committee Liaisons during its annual Organizational Meeting. You can see all that information, as well as watch all Board Meetings and Committee Meetings, on the Board of Education page of the District website.

Pre-register In Advance

all visitors bring their driver's license or state ID and please allow an extra few minutes for check-in at our school buildings.

As always, the safety of our students and staff is our number one priority at Riverside.

Community Kindness Day

Thanks to our students and staff for spreading some holiday cheer!

On November 26, we held our Districtresidents.

wide Community Kindness Day. This school year, we chose the day before Thanksgiving break in an effort to show our thanks to the community while giving back.

Each of our schools partnered with local nonprofits to work on meaningful volunteer projects that hopefully leave a long-lasting and positive impact on our community.

Riverside Campus — Students served lunch at The Salvation Army, made cards for Meals on Wheels and local nursing homes and raised money for Ian's *Legacy* during its turkey volleyball game. **LaMuth Middle School** — Students

took a field trip to Vista Springs Quail Highlands to socialize and entertain their

Buckeye Elementary — Students made ornaments for local nursing homes, cards for first responders and goodie bags for Project Hope.

Melridge Elementary — Partnered with End 68 Hours of Hunger and held a school-wide collection of peanut butter and jelly to be donated to area families. A representative of the nonprofit also visited the school to talk about their mission.

Parkside Elementary — Partnered with Project Linus to make blankets to donate to children in Northeast Ohio.

Riverview Elementary — Partnered with Sleep in Heavenly Peace to raise money to help build beds for children.

Riverside Latchkey — Made cards and items for our School Safety Officers.



RIVERSIDE CAMPUS

National Honor Society's Newest Members

announce its newest inductees into the Dr. Mary Allen Porter Chapter of the National Honor Society.

This year 39 students were officially inducted during a ceremony held in members must meet high standards of

Riverside High School is proud to October in the D.W. Shaner Auditorium leadership, service and character. Members on the Riverside Campus.

> students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5. Additionally, potential

National Honor Society Inductors

of the Sophomore, Junior and Senior To be considered for membership, classes that met the G.P.A. requirement and completed the NHS packet were evaluated and screened by the five-member Faculty Council.

2024 National Honor Society Inductees						
Gary Baptie (10)	Scarlet Cervera (10)	Payton Havanchak (10)	Addison Parr (10)	Leah Tekavec (10)		
Sarah Bernardo (11)	Elyse Champa (10)	Grace Horton (10)	Noor Qotaynah (10)	Andrew Teknipp (11)		
Alex Boergert (10)	Connor Chapman (11)	Rylee Kish (10)	Christian Rebenock (10)	Catherine Thompson (10)		
Katarina Bojic (10)	Caden Cifra (12)	Matthew Michalski (10)	Bryce Rossi (10)	Timothy Isabella (10)		
Alexandra Bozic (10)	Delaney Cifra (10)	Madilyn Miozzi (10)	Amanda Schack (11)	Brynn Urban (10)		
Owen Brown (11)	Josephine Cooper (10)	Lilah Moore (10)	Norah Sharpe (10)	Allison Urbas (11)		
Jackson Buckels (10)	Madeline Davis (10)	Kaylee Naymik (10)	Sabrina Shaw (10)	Madelyn Victor (10)		
Grant Burry (11)	Nica Dolce (10)	Noah Parker (11)	Devin Shilling (10)	-		

NHS Spring Carnival — On Friday, April 11 NHS will host the third annual Spring Carnival from 5-8 p.m. at the LaMuth Middle School gym. This elementarythemed carnival will feature games, activities, face painting, concessions and more for a family-packed fun evening. Tickets are \$4 at the door.

NHS Spring Craft Show — On Saturday, April 26 NHS will host a Spring Craft Show from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. inside Riverside High School. Vendors interested in renting a table for the event can contact elizabeth.goodge@riversideschools.net. Admission for the Craft Show is \$3 with proceeds benefitting Lake County Council on Aging and NHS Scholarships.

Join the RIVERSIDE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Lifetime membership in the **Riverside Alumni Association** is just \$25. The Alumni Association fosters fellowship that mutually benefits the Riverside community and its alumni by providing:

- Scholarships to Riverside H.S. seniors
- Recognition of achievements through the Hall of Fame
- Assistance with class reunions
- Networking opportunities
- A bridge between current students and alumni

For more information on the Riverside Alumni Association, and how to join, please visit **www. riversidealumni.com**.

RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Newest Hall Of Fame Members

Congratulations to the five newest members inducted into the Riverside High School Hall of Fame. This class of honorees was inducted during the Riverside Alumni Association's annual Dinner and Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in October. Since the recognition program began, 162 outstanding members of the Riverside community have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. To read complete bios on the newest Riverside High School Hall of Fame members, visit **www. riversidealumni.com**.



RIVERSIDE CAMPUS

Student-Athlete Commitments

On November 13, seven Riverside High School seniors signed their National Letter of Intent to continue their academic and athletic careers in college.

Additional signing ceremonies will be held through the end of the school year as more student-athletes

commit to college. Congratulations and good luck to each of these



student athletes.







ot, Ella ot, Cox, College, Cornell Univ., gymnastics



CourtneyJoshJohnson,Rauer,Siena HeightsAshland Univ.,Univ., volleyballbaseball



Davis, West Liberty Univ., softball



Madelyn Warner, Westminster College, lacrosse

Field House Open

The Riverside Field House is open to community members free of charge from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. on school days. There is an indoor track in the Field House for walking and running.

We do ask that community members bring a dry pair of shoes to exercise. Lockers are available to store valuables and clothes, however, individuals must bring their own lock to secure their belongings.



DISTRICT

Retirement Near For Mr. Schlick

Long-time Assistant Superintendent Charles Schlick announced that he will be retiring effective August 1, 2025. Schlick has been with our District for nearly 25 years and has served in several different roles including Principal of Melridge Elementary and Principal at Riverside Campus before becoming the Assistant Superintendent in 2008.

Mr. Schlick has been an invaluable leader who has brought integrity, guidance, passion and dedication to all of his roles that he served throughout his tenure at Riverside. He has played a pivotal role in shaping the direction of our District and has been instrumental in fostering a positive, collaborative environment while supporting the growth of all our students and staff.

We are thankful for the wisdom and unwavering support Mr. Schlick has provided to our staff throughout all these years and are grateful for the long-lasting impact he has made across our District. Please join us in congratulating Mr. Schlick on his illustrious career and his welldeserved retirement. We are confident our entire staff will continue to feel the positive effects of Mr. Schlick's leadership for many, many more years to come.



2024-2025 School Safety Team

For the second year in a row, each school in the District has a full-time School Safety Officer (SSO) on duty during school hours. This is in addition to our two District-wide School Resource Officers (SRO). Thank you for keeping our students and staff safe. Our District is extremely fortunate to have a great partnership with the Lake County Sheriff's Office, who help ensure that we have these roles filled at every school building in the District every day. Not only for safety reasons, but also to establish positive and supportive relationships with students, staff and families.



Front row: Deputy Fitzgerald (SRO), Deputy Shaw (Campus SSO), Deputy Bruening (Buckeye SSO), Deputy O'Brien (LaMuth SSO) Middle row: Deputy Rich (Melridge SSO), Deputy Reed (ACC SSO) Top row: Deputy Ward (Riverview SSO), Deputy Warner (Parkside SSO), Deputy Basco (SRO)



by the Ohio PBIS Network and the State Support Team for implementation of school-wide

Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports We are excited to announce that Riverside Campus has recently been recognized with the Ohio PBIS Bronze Award.



This award is distributed to high schools that implement school-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports programs.

Riverside Campus, as well as all of the schools in our District, have developed several PBIS initiatives to promote positive and schoolappropriate behavior to continue to improve the safety, climate and wellness across our District.

These types of programs remind students to Do the Right Thing, Act with Determination, Be a Positive Influence, Own Your Attitude and Choices, and many other positive behaviors that define our Culture Playbook.



The District would like to thank the following businesses, organizations and individuals for the following donations, which were approved by the Board of Education between June 2024 and December 2024:

- Ohio Real Title for donating \$80 to student meal accounts at Melridge Elementary
- Ohio Real Title for donating \$120 to the Melridge Elementary Activity Fund for the purchase of friendship benches
- Jon Hanson for donating \$198.47 to **Riverside Athletics**
- **RLEEF** for donating \$175,000 to the **RLEEF Activity Fund**
- Progressive Insurance Foundation for donating \$225 to the **RLEEF Activity Fund**
- Alan Wertheimer for donating \$1,000 to the Class of 1964 Scholarship Fund
- OHSAA 2023-24 **Athletic Enrichment Fund** for donating \$2,000 to Riverside Athletics
- Looman Family for donating six outdoor benches to LaMuth Middle School
- Class of 1961 for donating \$719.45 to the Henry F. LaMuth Memorial Scholarship Fund

COMMUNITY

Banner Sponsors

"Tier 1: All-In Sponsors"

Adventure Subaru **American Pride Tree Service Claire Jazbec Team** Classic Volkswagen **Clean Eatz Crossroads Veterinary** Fire and Ice **First Class Construction** Gabe Cicconetti **Huntington Learning Center** Lew's Reliable Heat & AC **Little Mountain Country Club Mentor Nissan Outback Auto Wash Peps Plumbing Service** R.L.E.A. **Ryan Homes** Scaffco Scaffolding Smoothie King Sylvan of Mentor The Woods on 84 **UWD Holdings LLC** Zappitelli Financial Services



We'd like to thank all of our Banner Sponsors for the 2024- 2025 school year. Funds raised from the Banner Sponsorship Program benefit the District's Athletic Department, which supports all high school and middle school athletic programs. Thank you so much for your support!

"Tier 2: Stadium Sponsors"

Auburn Career Center **Biggby Coffee Concord Professional Firefighters Local 3329 Master Pizza** Potti & Marc F. Burr Funeral Home **Simmons Painting** WR Dawson Homes

"Tier 3: Field House Sponsors"

Cleveland Construction Major Waste Disposal Painesville Dental Group **TBBS Service Concepts**

COMMUNITY

Visit Our Community Flyers & Events Page

requests from outside, non-District sponsored organizations and nonprofits to advertise their events, activities or resources. Starting with the 2024-2025 school year, all approved flyers are posted on our Community Flyers & Events page found on the District website.

Please do not drop-off flyers at school buildings as we are looking to go 100% digital due to the

The Riverside Local School District often receives amount of flyer requests received on a yearly basis. A link to the Community Flyers & Events page is listed in building and District e-newsletters throughout the school year. We do not send emails and/or post on social media for individual flyers or individual events for outside organizations due to the number of requests. For approval, please submit your flyer to the Superintendent's office at marlo.herrmann@ riversideschools.net.

- Harden Family for donating a saxophone to LaMuth Middle School
- Steris Corporation for donating 12 Meta Quest 2 headsets, 10 Meta Quest 2 elite straps, 2 Meta Quest 2 elite straps with battery pack, and 5 Anker Meta Quest 2 charging
- stations • Class of 1964 for donating \$4,000 to the Class of 1964 Scholarship Fund
- Parkside PTO for donating \$2,250 for Parkside Elementary library books
- **RLEEF** for donating \$14,700 to the RLEEF Activity Fund

- **AMSCO** for donating \$380 for FabLab printer ink
- Parkside Staff and Families for donating \$865 to the David Baker Memorial Fund
- Riverside Alumni Association for donating \$250 to the S.I.D.E. Leadership Day of Caring project
- Anonymous Donor for donating \$1,600 to the Riverside Veterans Memorial Fund
- Susan Bloss for donating \$500 to the Henry F. LaMuth Scholarship Fund
- Denise Brewster for donating \$300 to **Riverside** Drama

2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Coming to a close!

Looking ahead!

Riverside Local Schools District Calendar

February	10	Monday	Teacher In-service – no classes		
February	17	Monday	President's Day – no school		
March	3	Monday	Teacher In-service – no classes		
March	24	Monday	Spring Vacation begins (through March 28, 2025) – no school		
March	31	Monday	School re-opens Monday, March 31, 2025		
April	18	Friday	Spring Break begins (through April 21, 2025) – no school		
April	22	Tuesday	School re-opens Tuesday, April 22, 2025		
May	26	Monday	Memorial Day – no school		
May	30	Friday	Last day for students		
NOTE And distribution for the day and an effective for the distribution of the day have been a 2000					

NOTE: Any additional hours of required student attendance, if needed, will be added commencing Monday, June 2, 2025.

2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

			- -	
August	20	Wednesday	Kindergarten Orientation	
August	21	Thursday	First day of school, classes begin for Grades 1-12,	
-			Kindergarten Screening and Preschool Orientation	
August	22	Friday	Kindergarten Screening and Preschool Orientation	
August	25	Monday	First day of school for Kindergarten (last names A-L),	
U			First day of school for ALL Preschool students	
August	26	Tuesday	First day of school for Kindergarten (last names M-Z)	
August	27	Wednesday	First full day of school for Kindergarten (all students)	
September	1	Monday	Labor Day – no school	
October	10	Friday	Fall Break, NEOEA Day – no school	
November	3	Monday	Teacher In-service – no classes	
November	4	Tuesday	Election Day / Teacher In-Service – no classes	
November	26	Wednesday	Thanksgiving Vacation begins (through Nov. 28, 2025) – no school	
December	1	Monday	School re-opens Monday, December 1, 2025	
December	22	Monday	Winter Vacation begins (through Jan. 5, 2026) – no school	
January	6	Tuesday	School re-opens Tuesday, January 6, 2026	
January	19	Monday	Martin Luther King Day – no school	
February	9	Monday	Teacher In-service – no classes	
February	16	Monday	Presidents' Day – no school	
March	2	Monday	Teacher In-service – no classes	
March	23	Monday	Spring Vacation begins (through March 27, 2026) – no school	
March	30	Monday	School re-opens Monday, March 30, 2026	
April	3	Friday	Spring Break begins (through April 6, 2026) – no school	
April	7	Tuesday	School re-opens Tuesday, April 7, 2026	
May	25	Monday	Memorial Day – no school	
May	29	Friday	Last day for students	
NOTELL		1 1/ 1		

NOTE: Hazardous weather and/or other unforeseen circumstances may force an alteration of this calendar in order to comply with State law. In the event weather or other calamities require additional hours of student attendance, those hours will be added commencing Monday, June 1, 2026 or as permitted by State law.









We're looking for you!

Bus Drivers/ Bus Aides/ Transportation Dept. Substitutes Evening Custodians and Substitutes Latchkey Assistants Lunchroom

Assistants Special Needs Classroom Assistants

Any interested applicants for these positions should contact Mallory Aliff, Human Resources Director for the Riverside



Local School District, by email at mallory.aliff@riversideschools.net or apply via the Employment page at www.riversidelocalschools.com.

Substitute Teachers

Applicants for a substitute teacher position should



submit their application via the Ohio Substitute Teacher Services at www. escneo.org/substituteteacherservices_ home. A Bachelor's Degree (in any field) is required as well as a clean criminal background check.

Non-Teaching Staff & Substitutes

Teaching Substitutes

RIVERSIDE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education

Scott Fishel, President, 440-231-1960 Dennis Keeney, Vice President, 440-417-4999 Denise Brewster, Member, 440-701-6702 Belinda Grassi, Member, 440-487-1599 Lori Krenisky, Member, 440-725-6600

Central Administration Office Dr. Chris Rateno, Superintendent Mr. Gary A. Platko, Treasurer 585 Riverside Drive, Painesville, Ohio 44077 440-352-0668

Riverside Campus Michael Hall, Principal 585 Riverside Drive, Painesville, Ohio 44077 440-352-3341 (Riverside) 440-352-3345 (J.R.W.)

Henry F. LaMuth Middle School Dr. Chris Basich, Principal 6700 Auburn Road, Concord, Ohio 44077 440-354-4394

Buckeye Elementary Mrs. Cassandre Smolen, Principal 175 Buckeye Road, Painesville, Ohio 44077 440-352-2191

Melridge Elementary Mrs. Gretchen Wakim, Principal 6689 Melridge Drive, Concord, Ohio 44077 440-352-3854

Parkside Elementary Mr. Timothy St. Clair, Principal 12428 Concord-Hambden Road, Concord, Ohio 44077 440-358-8750

Riverview Elementary

Mrs. Traci Shantery, Principal 845 Madison Avenue, Painesville, Ohio 44077 440-357-6171

LEGISLATORS

The following elected officials serve the residents of the Riverside Local School District:

Ohio Senate 18th District

Senator Jerry C. Cirino Senate Building, 1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 • 614-644-7718 (voice) Web: ohiosenate.gov/jerry-c-cirino

Ohio House of Rep. 57th District

Representative Jamie Callender 77 S. High Street, 13th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 614-644-6074 (voice) 614-719-3963 (fax) Web: www.ohiohouse.gov/jamie-callender

State Board of Education

John Hagan, District 9 330-495-2946 (voice) Email: John.Hagan@sboe.ohio.gov





565 Riverside Drive • Fainesville, Onio 44077

The Riverside Local School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex or handicap in educational programs, activities or employment practices as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Reasonable technical assistance to facilitate participation in the application process will be made available upon request.

Want More Info? 💫 www.riversidelocalschools.com

All information within was accurate at the time of printing. Visit the District website, Facebook page, Twitter account or YouTube channel for any updates and new details about the variety of events happening within our schools. **Sign up for a weekly electronic newsletter on our website**. *Thank you for your support!*

🖬 www.facebook.com/riversidelocalschools 🎔 @RLSD_Beavers 🗈 Riverside Local Schools

COMMUNITY

Upcoming Events

The SpongeBob Musical

Riverside Theatre will be performing *The SpongeBob Musical* as its spring production. Show times are Thursday, March 13 at 5 p.m., Friday March 14 at 7:30 p.m., and two performances on Saturday March 15 at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets for the show are available at **www.rivbeavs.booktix.com**.

Senior Citizen Appreciation Dinner

In conjunction with the spring musical, the District will host its popular Senior Citizen Appreciation Dinner on Thursday, March 13 at 4 p.m. Seniors can enjoy a free meal in the Riverside High School cafeteria prepared and served by students in the Foods and Nutrition classes followed by a free performance of *The SpongeBob Musical* at 5 p.m. in the D.W. Shaner Auditorium. *PLEASE NOTE:* We do ask that senior citizens attending the dinner on March 13 RSVP via email to rhstheatre@ riversideschools.net by Friday March 7.



Community Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Riverside Community Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Riverside Parent Teacher Association, will take place on Saturday, April 12 at noon. The egg hunt, which is offered for children ages Pre-K through 5th grade, will take place in front of Riverside High School rain, snow or sunshine! This event is free of charge, but children must bring their own bag or a basket to collect eggs.

