

## **SCHOOL OPENING INFORMATION 2026-2027**

**ALL** River Bend Schools will open on **Thursday, August 20, 2026** . The first day will be a full day for all students.

**Fulton Elementary School:** Kindergarten Signing Day will be on Tuesday, August 18th starting at 2:00pm. Kindergarten teachers will send appointment scheduling information out in August. There will be a Backpack Night at Fulton Elementary School on Wednesday, August 19, 2025, from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm for grades 1-5. Everyone is encouraged to attend and students are encouraged to drop off supplies.

**River Bend Middle School:** There will be a Sixth Grade Parent/Student meeting on Wednesday, August 19, 2026 from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Seventh and Eighth Grade students can Drop and Go (supply drop off) from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm the same evening.

**ZERO Day for FRESHMEN AND NEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS** will be Thursday, August 20th from 12pm to 3:05 pm

**Fulton Blended Preschool:** AM class 9:00 - 11:30 am and PM class 12:30 - 3:00 pm with school provided transportation.

Daily starting and closing times for each of the schools is as follows:

<b>Fulton Elementary School</b>	<b>8:00 am - 3:12 pm</b>
<b>River Bend Middle School</b>	<b>8:10 am - 3:12 pm</b>
<b>Fulton High School</b>	<b>8:05 am - 3:05 pm</b>

### **NOTICE TO NEW STUDENTS**

A student registering in a River Bend School for the first time after having attended school in another district should request the former school to send their grade and health records to the school they will attend this year. If this has not been done, the parent must sign a release and we will send a request for these records. New students are required to provide proof of residency within the District by providing the required number of documents from each of the following categories:

#### Category I (One document required)

- Most recent property tax bill and proof of payment, e.g., canceled check or Form 1098 (homeowners)
- Mortgage papers (homeowners)
- Signed and dated lease and proof of last month's payment, e.g., canceled check or receipts (renters)
- Letter from manager and proof of last month's payment, e.g., canceled check or receipt (trailer park residents)
- Letter of residence from landlord in lieu of lease (7:60-AP2, E1)
- Letter of residence to be used when the person seeking to enroll a student is living with a District resident (7:60-AP2, E2)

#### Category II (Two documents showing proper address are required)

- Driver's license
- Vehicle registration
- Voter registration
- Most recent cable television and/or credit card bill
- Current bank statement

- Current public aid card
- Current homeowners/renters insurance policy and premium payment receipt
- Most recent gas, electric, and/or water bill
- Current library card
- Receipt for moving van rental

### **REGISTRATION & FEE COLLECTION**

River Bend Schools will again be utilizing a **two-step** online process to complete all student registration. Online registration will open July 1st and continue until August 19th. In order to complete the **two-step** online registration process, parents need to have a PowerSchool parent login and if wishing to pay applicable fees online, a MySchoolBucks parent login. Fee payments in the form of cash or check may be paid at the District Office or at any of the school buildings during normal business hours. Please contact your student's school or the District Office if you need your login information. Step by step registration instructions for PowerSchool and MySchoolBucks can be found on the District's website: [www.riverbendschools.org](http://www.riverbendschools.org)

#### **Important Dates/Times:**

- Online Registration open July 1st - August 19th
- **District Office:** Staff available for support with registration and to take cash or check for payments, July 1st - July 24th. District Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 7:30 am - 3:00 pm and Fridays 7:30 am -11:30 am. 1110 3rd Street, 815-589-2711.
- **Free/Reduced Applications:** Only those seeking approval for Free/Reduced status need to complete this form. This form will be filled out on MySchoolApps. [www.myschoolapps.com](http://www.myschoolapps.com)
- **Fulton High School Office Hours:** June 29th - July 17th, Monday - Thursday, 7:30 am - 11:30 am, Friday - Closed; July 20th - August 14th, Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 3:00 pm, Friday 7:30 am - 11:30 am.
- **River Bend Middle School Office Hours:** July 27th - August 14th, Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 3:00 pm, Friday 7:30 am - 11:30 am.
- **Fulton Elementary School Office Hours:** July 27th - August 14th, Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 3:00 pm, Friday 7:30 am - 11:30 am.

**Registration is a TWO-STEP process! Information must be reviewed and updated in PowerSchool and then fees must be paid on MySchoolBucks or by paying with cash or check at the District Office or one of the schools. Both steps must be completed for your student(s) registration to be considered complete.**

#### **School Registration Fees:**

K-5	\$85.00 (Early registration July 1st - 24th - \$80.00)
6-8	\$95.00 (Early registration July 1st - 24th - \$90.00)
9-12	\$110.00 (Early registration July 1st - 24th - \$105.00)

Other fees are:

PE Shirt (6-12)	\$8
PE Shorts (6-12)	\$12
PE Lock Fee (9-12)	\$8
Driver Education	\$150
Extra Curricular (6-8)	\$25
Extra Curricular (9-12)	\$150 (one activity) \$180 (multiple activities) \$75 (if qualify for Reduced Lunch) / \$25 (if qualify for Free Lunch)

(Extra curricular includes: interscholastic athletics, jazz choir, jazz band, scholastic bowl, thespians, cheerleading, and speech team.)

Illinois law requires the school district to waive or reduce fees for children whose parents are unable to afford them, including but not limited to children receiving aid under Article IV of the Illinois Public Aid Code. Parents who feel that they cannot afford to pay full fees should contact the Principal to discuss their situation.

**PHYSICAL, DENTAL, & EYE EXAMINATIONS IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

In accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois, all students upon entrance into Preschool, Kindergarten or school for the first time, Sixth, and Ninth Grade must have a physical examination performed by a medical doctor. Chiropractor exams are **NOT** accepted. Physicals must be on an Illinois Department of Health form and on file in the School where the student is in attendance. Forms are available in all School Offices and on the webpage.

State law and the Department of Public Health require evidence of immunity against:

<b>Pre-School</b>	<b>FES</b>	<b>RBMS</b>	<b>FHS</b>
DPT	DPT	Tdap	Tdap
Polio	Polio	Polio	Polio
MMR	MMR	MMR	MMR
Varicella	Varicella	Varicella	Varicella
Hepatitis B		Hepatitis B	Hepatitis B
Pneumococcal		Meningococcal	Meningococcal
Hib			

\*Varicella – two doses starting in Kindergarten

\*Meningococcal – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade – (Total of two doses unless first one given after age 16 then only one dose is required)

Children entering Kindergarten are required to have a lead screen. A dental examination is also required for all students entering Kindergarten, Second, Sixth, and Ninth Grade. Students entering Kindergarten or an Illinois school for the first time are required to have an eye examination completed by an optometrist or physician who provides complete eye examinations.

Students in these grades must have the physical on file, or an appointment made by October 15<sup>th</sup>, or be suspended from School. Every effort should be made to have this completed by the first day of school. New students entering the District will have thirty (30) days to obtain such examinations or appointments after they are enrolled. **STRICTLY ENFORCED, SO PLEASE DO IT NOW!**

**Exemptions**

In accordance with rules adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), a student will be exempted from this policy’s requirements for:

1. Religious or medical grounds, if the student's parents/guardians present the IDPH's Certificate of Religious Exemption form to the Nurse. When a Certificate of Religious Exemption form is presented, the Nurse shall immediately inform the parents/guardians of exclusion procedures pursuant to Board policy 7:280, *Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease* and State rules if there is an outbreak of one or more diseases from which the student is not protected.
2. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds, if a physician provides written verification.
3. Eye examination requirement, if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist.
4. Dental examination requirement, if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

### **ENTRANCE AGE**

A child must be five (5) years of age on or before September 1, 2026, to enroll in Kindergarten. A state certified birth certificate must be presented to School officials at the time of enrollment of a Kindergarten child. If a pupil is enrolling in the First Grade and did not attend Kindergarten, a state certified birth certificate must be presented. To be eligible to enter First Grade a student must have attained the age of six (6) years of age on or before September 1, 2026.

### **PHONE NUMBERS**

Superintendent of Schools  
Mrs. Kelli Parsons  
815-589-2711

Fulton Blended Preschool  
Mrs. Shelby Lucky, Mrs. Dawna Kurtz, Ms. Christy Hanson  
815-589-2309

Fulton Elementary School  
Mr. Jeffrey Hoese, Principal  
Mrs. Aimee Marten, Assistant Principal  
815-589-2911

River Bend Middle School  
Mr. Patrick Henrekin, Principal  
815-589-2611

Fulton High School  
Mr. Jeff Parsons, Principal  
Mrs. Nicole Bowers, Assistant Principal  
815-589-3511

Bus Garage  
Mr. Taylor Whitney  
815-589-2902

### **ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**

Regular school attendance is directly related to success at school. If a student must be absent from school, please call the school office by 9:00 am to report the child's absence and the

reason for the absence. If a student who is subject to compulsory attendance laws is absent without valid cause for 5% or more of regular days, they will be referred to the Regional Office of Education for truancy intervention.

### **ANNUAL ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN NOTICE**

This is to inform you of the status of River Bend CUSD #2 Asbestos Management Plan(s). It has been determined by the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Federal Environmental Protection Agency that asbestos is a potential health hazard and precautions should be taken to avoid disturbing any asbestos containing materials.

As required, our building(s) were initially inspected for asbestos on August 9, 1988. The AHERA law requires that a visual surveillance of asbestos containing areas be completed every six months, and a re-inspection conducted every three years which was completed in September 2024, and is due again by September 2027. Any evidence of disturbance or change in condition will be documented in the Management Plan as required.

The Inspection/Management Plan is available for public review in the principal's office in each building.

### **SCHOOL CALENDAR \*\*ONLINE \*\***

The School Calendar information will be available on the school website ([www.riverbendschools.org](http://www.riverbendschools.org)) listed as FHS activities and RBMS/FES activities. Parents that would like a printed calendar may request one from the school office.

### **EARLY OUTS AND DAYS WHEN SCHOOL IS CLOSED:**

**\*\*EARLY RELEASE SCHEDULE:** FHS bus students will be dismissed at 12:15 pm and walkers at 12:20 pm, FES/RBMS bus students will be dismissed at 12:25 pm, and walkers will be dismissed after buses have departed, approximately 12:30 pm.

August 18, 2026	Teacher's Institute
August 19, 2026	Teacher's Institute
August 20, 2026	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Student attendance, will be a full day
September 7, 2026	No School - Labor Day
September 9, 2026	12:30 pm - Early Release
September 23, 2026	12:30 pm - Early Release
October 7, 2026	12:30 pm - Early Release
October 12, 2026	No School - Columbus Day
October 21, 2026	12:30 pm - Early Release
November 5, 2026	12:30 pm - Early Release
November 5, 2026	Parent-Teacher Conferences – 2 pm – 7 pm
November 6, 2026	No School - Parent-Teacher Conferences – 8 am – 1 pm
November 18, 2026	12:30 pm - Early Release
November 25 - 27, 2026	No School - Thanksgiving
December 9, 2026	12:30 pm - Early Release
Dec 21, 2026 – Jan 1, 2027	No School - Winter Break
January 4, 2027	Teacher's Institute
January 5, 2027	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of student attendance after winter break
January 18, 2027	No School - Martin Luther King Jr Day
January 27, 2027	12:30 pm - Early Release
February 10, 2027	12:30 pm - Early Release
February 15, 2027	No School - Presidents Day

March 3, 2027	12:30 pm - Early Release
March 17, 2027	12:30 pm - Early Release
March 26 – April 2, 2027	No School - Easter/Spring Break
April 21, 2027	12:30 pm - Early Release
May 12, 2027	12:30 pm - Early Release
May 26, 2027	Last student attendance day – full day - Pending snow days
May 27, 2027	Teacher’s Institute
May 31, 2027	Memorial Day

**Make up days/e-Learning Days for emergency/snow days will be on Martin Luther King Day (by Jan 8), President’s Day (by Feb 5), and added to the end of the school year if needed. e-Learning Days may be used during the actual weather event to keep the calendar intact.**

**GRADING PERIODS**

1st Quarter will end on October 23, 2026  
 2nd Quarter will end on **January 15, 2027**  
 3rd Quarter will end on March 19, 2027  
 4th Quarter will end on May 27, 2027

**REPORT CARDS AND PROGRESS REPORTS**

Report cards and progress reports will be paperless.

**STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

Optional accident insurance is available for River Bend pupils. The insurance rates this year are:

SCHOOL TIME	24-HR. COVERAGE	FOOTBALL COVERAGE
Pre-K-8	\$20.00	\$73.00
9-12	\$40.00	\$125.00
9-12		\$95.00

Enrollment for student accident insurance is available online at [www.k12specialmarkets.com](http://www.k12specialmarkets.com). Instruction for enrollment will be available at registration and at the District Office. Accident insurance is required for all football players. Families having full-coverage under another policy may waive this requirement.

**RIVER BEND SCHOOLS HAZARDOUS WEATHER PROCEDURE**

Occasionally hazardous weather conditions make it necessary to cancel school or to adjust daily school beginning and ending times. School officials attempt to get such information to the local radio stations, TV stations, the internet AND A POWER ANNOUNCEMENT SENT OUT, in most cases by 6:30 AM Please check listings below if you feel there is a possibility for one of these changes.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL ON MORNINGS WHEN THE WEATHER IS BAD. TO DO SO TIES UP THE PHONE LINES UNNECESSARILY. RIVER BEND SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY ADJUST SCHOOL TIMES OR DISMISS COMPLETELY AS FOLLOWS:

1. Late starts are sometimes necessary due to heavy fog or icing conditions, making school bus and other vehicle travel extremely hazardous. Starting school later than usual will sometimes allow these conditions to improve.

2. Early dismissals are sometimes advisable because of hazardous weather conditions developing after school has started for the day.
3. Entire day dismissals are sometimes necessary because of severe weather conditions, such as heavy snow or ice and/or severe wind and cold temperatures, or a combination of these conditions.

[www.riverbendschools.org](http://www.riverbendschools.org)

KROS (1340) AM

WSDR (1240) AM

KCLN (1390) AM

WLLT (107.7) FM

WQAD (TV-8) [www.wqad.com](http://www.wqad.com)

WHBF (TV-4) [www.whbf.com](http://www.whbf.com)

KWQC (TV-6) [www.kwqc.com](http://www.kwqc.com)

WZZT (102.7) FM

MAC (94.7) FM

WCCI (100.3) FM

WSSQ (94.3) FM

Please keep your contact information current by notifying the school office of any changes.

### **SCHOOL BREAKFAST**

Breakfast programs are prepared at the River Bend Middle School and Fulton High School and serve elementary, middle, and high school students from 7:30 AM to 8:00 AM. Upon completion of breakfast, students move to their assigned morning areas. Students are offered 8 ounces of milk, 1/2 cup fruit, vegetable, or juice; and two servings of bread or meat or one of each. The breakfast menu provides the nourishment your child needs to perform in morning classes. The price of a paid breakfast is \$2.00 and the reduced price breakfast is 30¢. If the student is eligible for free or reduced lunch, they can also receive a free or reduced breakfast.

### **LUNCH PRICES**

Grades	Daily
K-5	\$3.45
6-8	\$3.60
9-12	\$3.70
Second lunch	\$4.25
Adults	\$4.25
Reduced lunch	40¢
Extra Milk	60¢

Ala Carte is also available at Fulton High School and River Bend Middle School.

### **RIVER BEND MUSIC BOOSTERS**

The River Bend Music Boosters invite all parents with a student involved in one of the River Bend music programs to the first Music Boosters Meeting at the Fulton High School Band and Choir room. The Music Boosters is an organization that raises money to help provide the extras to the music departments that might not otherwise be attainable. Projects funded include band/chorus uniforms, pianos/key boards, field trips, classroom instruments, sound/audio equipment, accompanists, awards, etc. Any parental support is greatly appreciated.

### **RIVER BEND ATHLETIC BOOSTERS**

The River Bend Athletic Boosters invite all parents with a student involved in athletics to an athletic booster meeting. The Booster Meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month every month. All meetings take place in the high school cafeteria. The Athletic Boosters is an organization that raises money to help provide the extras to the athletic departments that might

not otherwise be attainable. Please come to a meeting and get involved in the River Bend Athletic Boosters!

**ATHLETIC TICKETS**

**HIGH SCHOOL**

ADULTS	\$5.00
STUDENTS	\$3.00
SENIOR (60+ yrs)	\$3.00

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

ADULTS	\$2.00
STUDENTS	\$1.00
SENIOR (60+ yrs)	\$1.00

SENIOR CITIZENS \$25.00 for a school year pass that is good at all schools

RIVER BEND STUDENTS – No charge

**ALL - VARSITY EVENT - TICKETS**

ADULTS

\$28.00 - 8 events (Saves \$1.50/ticket)
\$43.00 - 13 events (Saves \$1.69/ticket)
\$56.00 - 18 events (Saves \$1.89/ticket)
\$74.00 - 24 events (Saves \$1.92/ ticket)

The River Bend CUSD #2 Board of Education meets the third Wednesday of each month at the District Office beginning at 6:30 pm.