

Rio Rancho Public Schools General Information

Administrative Offices

500 Laser Rd.

Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124

Phone: (505)896-0667

Fax: (505) 896-0662

<http://www.rrps.net/>

Find your School

Rio Rancho Public Schools has a boundary map you can use to determine your child's school. The maps can be found at

<http://www.rrps.net/Administration/Transportation/transport.html?tab=b>.

Registration Information

If you are registering your child(ren) for the first time, you must bring with you when you register your child:

- Original birth certificate
- Court documents pertaining to guardianship, if applicable
- Copy of student's current Individualized Education Plan (IEP), if applicable
- Immunization records
- Students enrolling in kindergarten must be five years of age on or before August 31st.
- Social Security number (requested, but not required)
- Proof of residency (current utility bill, rent receipt or purchase agreement)
- Transcripts (high school)

RRPS Transfers to non-home school

Students who live within the attendance area for a school get first priority to attend that school. If a school **does not** fill up, additional students may transfer into that school. RRPS will approve transfers only if a school has space for new students.

Transfer request guidelines:

Transfer requests can be submitted by a parent. You will need to complete the required transfer request form; transfer information and the form can be found on the Rio Rancho Public Schools website- www.rrps.net. Go to the department page, then to the student services page and the link is listed there. You can also contact the Transfer Office at (505) 896-0667. The process for transfer requests for the next school year begins on May 1st. Students must be registered at their home school for new transfers.

Transfer Priorities

1. First priority transfers (also known as second priority students) are students enrolled in a school ranked as a school that needs improvement or a school subject to corrective action.
2. Second priority transfers (third priority students) are students who have attended RRPS during the previous year. The principal may use the following factors in determining priority within this group:
 - Children of RRPS employees
 - Siblings of students already attending RRPS
 - Child care for siblings of students attending RRPS
 - After school care for students
 - Extreme hardship
 - Student safety
3. Third priority transfers (fourth priority students) are all other student transfer requests

Waiting Lists

If a transfer request cannot be approved for any of the requested schools, each school will establish a **waiting list** for that school year. If space becomes available at a school, students on the waiting list will be offered enrollment based on the student's priority category and the order placed on the waiting list.

Approved Transfers

As soon as you receive a transfer approval, please contact your new school to find out when the student can complete the registration process.

Delayed Openings, Cancellation & Early Dismissal

New Mexico schools' delayed openings are called 2-hour delays. School starts two hours after the normal start time and is released at the normal time (on Wednesday, elementary school will release at the regular non-early release time). Early dismissal is when schools are released prior to the regular end of day time.

Delayed opening decisions will be made and announced before 0600 and aired on all local news channels and the RRPS website. School Cancellations announcements will be made by 0900.

AVID- Advancement via Individual Determination

AVID is a world-wide program currently in place in Rio Rancho Public Schools. This program provides support to students who qualify to succeed in college prep classes in preparation for entrance into accredited 4 year colleges.

Graduation Requirements

Rio Rancho offers two diploma options to students, a standard diploma and a Diploma of Distinction. The Diploma of Distinctions requires at least 2 Advanced Placement credits and a 3.0 GPA. It is a NM state requirement that

students must pass one unit of Advance Placement, Honors, dual credit or distance education for graduation.

The basic requirements are as follows:

Course Requirements:	Standard	Distinction
English	4	4
Mathematics	4	4
Science*	4	4
New Mexico History	0.5	0.5
Government	0.5	0.5
US History	1	1
World History	1	1
Economics	0.5	0.5
Geography	0.5	0.5
Physical Education	1	1
Health (starts with class of 2017)	0.5	0.5
World Languages (WL)/Career Cluster/Workplace Readiness	1	2 WL in same WL
Technology Elective	0.5	0.5
Fine Arts Elective	0.5	0.5
Electives (7 credits w/o health credit)	6.5	7.5
Total	26	28

*Must include Earth & Space/Conceptual Physics and two of the following: Biology, Chemistry, or Physics; and one additional science elective

Alternative Method of Earning High School Credits

There are several non-traditional options to earning credits in High School.

Distance Learning/ Online Courses/ Credit Recovery/ Correspondence Courses

Students must request prior approval from their counselor for distance learning course credit and complete an “Off Campus Course Agreement” form signed by the student, parent and counselor before enrolling in any off-campus course if the student expects the course to qualify for credit toward graduation. Rio Rancho Public Schools (RRPS) requires that the final exam be supervised by certified school personnel and be earned from an accredited school. The school reserves the right to evaluate a course before credit is given. Students may not take a correspondence or online course for Physical Education or a lab science (Biology, Chemistry or Physics). Online courses are available at Secondary Learning Center (SLC), at the Rio Rancho Cyber Academy. Credit Recovery Courses will be held off-site at the Secondary Learning Center. Transportation and all fees are the responsibility of the student/parent to attend the courses. The high school must receive an official transcript for the course to meet graduation credit requirements.

Dual Credit

Dual credit allows high school students to enroll in college courses offered by public postsecondary educational institutions. RRPS partners with CNM, University of New Mexico (UNM) Los Alamos, and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) to provide students the opportunity to earn college credit as well as elective credit towards graduation. Courses must be academic or career technical courses and must be agreed upon by the RRPS and the post-secondary institution in order to count toward a graduation requirement. These courses are offered either on or off campus. The tuition fee as well as the cost of textbooks is waived. Students must pay for course specific fees and for arranging transportation to the site of the dual credit course. Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be assigned appropriate credit and the student may request a transcript to receive HS elective credit. For more information on CNM's High School Programs, visit their webpage at www.cnm.edu/highschoolprograms/index.php.

State statute specifically indicates that credit will be assigned as follows:

3 - 4 credit hour post-secondary course = 1 RRPS elective credit

1 - 2 credit hour post-secondary course = 0.5 RRPS elective credit

High School Schedule

Rio Rancho Public Schools follows a traditional schedule in which all class periods meet for the same amount of time each day of the week, with an early release time on Wednesday. RRPS high schools start at 7:20 am and end at 2:29 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The release time on Wednesday is 1:40 pm.

Rio Rancho Schools of Choice

Cyber Academy

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy (RRCA) is a full-time, fully accredited high school and effective middle school environment. RRCA's curriculum is accepted by the NM PED. RRCA continues to be pro-active and collaborative to solve problems and be innovative in their planning and decision making. RRCA has been established as a credible learning environment with a rigorous curriculum that matches or exceeds that of the top comprehensive high schools in the district. RRCA has become a model Hybrid Distance Learning School known throughout the country. For more information, please visit <http://cyberacademy.rrps.net/>.

Family School

Family School is an alternative general education program for students in grades 1-5. The Rio Rancho Family School Program provides a half day of 'in school' education while parents provide the half day of 'at home' education. Math, Social Studies, Science, Reading and Language curriculum are provided to the parents by the school in order to meet the Rio Rancho Public Schools and

the Common Core State Standards. For more information, please visit http://1admin-yr-period-2-i.enchanted.rrps.net/modules/groups/integrated_home.phtml?&gid=2311897&sessionid=a89e7c3d4f87c331c62ea921b21cf684&t.

Honors and Advanced Placement Programs

The Honors/Advanced Placement curriculum offers a challenging program for all students. Courses are based on the College Board course description guidelines. These classes provide students with an emphasis on critical thinking skills, college preparatory experiences, and opportunities to take Advanced Placement examinations and possibly earn college credits. Students who choose these courses will be taking the most academically demanding courses the district offers. Students should receive career guidance and course planning assistance so they do not take more Honors/AP courses than they can comfortably handle.

Weighted Grade Increment: To recognize student achievement, courses recognized by the College Board as Advanced Placement (AP) and courses designated as Honors by the district will be awarded a weighted grade increment.

Special Education

The Rio Rancho Schools Special Services Department is responsible for all Special Education and federal programs in the district. They provide a wide range of services in a variety of settings. They have employed some of the most qualified professional in all service areas and enjoy seeing successful programs run at every school. Approximately 2,022 students, 12% of the total student body, currently receive special education services.

They provide services for children from 3 to 22 years of age, and address students' learning styles from a multi-modality approach. This means that services are integrated with emphasis on cooperative planning and intervention, coordination with curriculum, and collaboration with the parents. If you believe your child may have learning needs that require special education services, contact your child's teacher or other school staff. To find out more about RRPS's Special Services Department and for a variety of resources, visit <http://www.rrps.net/Achievement/Instruction/SpecialServices/sshome.html>.

S.A.F.E. (Students Achieving for Excellence) Before and After School Program:

The Rio Rancho School District is fortunate to offer your child(ren) the Student's Achieving For Excellence (S.A.F.E.) Before and After School Program. Currently the program is offered at all ten elementary schools. These programs include homework help, sports activities, special events, life skills, and guest speakers. Free snacks are provided daily.

For more information, please visit the S.A.F.E. program website at <http://www.rrps.net/Administration/Student%20Services/safeBASP.htm>, visit the program at your child's school site or call the main office at (505) 896-0667 ext. 237.

Program Hours:

Early Bird - 6:45 a.m. to start of school day

Before School - 7:00 a.m. to start of school day

After School Program - After school release to 6:00 p.m. (Wednesdays included)