



RIO RANCHO CYBER ACADEMY An Optional Educational Setting

Provided by

Rio Rancho Public Schools

1330 Jackie Road Rio Rancho, NM 87124

<http://www.rfps.net/CyberAcademy/>



RRCA is an optional educational setting which provides students with a distance learning application for grades 6-12. Lab time is available to support the unique academic and social needs of students in these grade levels. The curriculum and RRCA ensure the use of research-based Best Practices and Standards for Online Learning developed by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). Teachers have the tools they need to work with students at home and in the lab through the Learning Management System that provides real time student progress, documents all teacher information and student data. The lab setting provides time for teachers to mentor, monitor and motivate students establishing critical connections. See parent and student quotes on the back of this page.

Students must demonstrate Academic Achievement Skills, practice 21st Century Skills and become responsible for their own learning. RRCA reflects educational innovation and creative problem-solving in a collaborative professional environment. Students have optimal learning opportunities and parents are part of the daily educational process. Teachers are learners in a cutting-edge professional environment where high standards are expected for both students and teachers.

Credentials:

- Fully Accredited through North Central Accrediting Association (NCA) and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)
- Diploma granting
- AYP achieved 08-09
- Highly Qualified Teachers online and in the lab
- RRCA teachers have Master Teacher training through Intel



Curriculum:

- Online, interactive, interdisciplinary curricula which spirals (supporting previous grade level standards) throughout the grade levels
- NM Core Basal Curricula (RRCA participated in a pilot project with NMPED Instructional Materials to develop criteria for the evaluation of online curriculum)
- Supports writing across the curriculum

Instruction

- Customized, individualized and differentiated instruction
- Data driven decisions made utilizing formative and short cycle assessments
- Intervention is systematic and immediate due to formative assessment data provided also by the program's Learning Management System: Includes targeted tutoring, online diagnostic and prescriptive course work, advisor counseling and action plan for improvement
- Yearly evaluation of statistical and empirical data including parent/student satisfaction surveys
- Focuses on 21st Century and Academic Achievement Skills
- College and career counseling including goal setting strategies

Learning Environment

- Hybrid educational setting: Students work from home and in the lab
- Builds on student strengths in a safe environment
- 30% of RRCA students have returned from Home School



- Effective Home-School partnership
- Opportunities for accelerated learning and enrichment
- Flexible scheduling

Student Leadership:

- Youth Leadership participation with Rio Rancho Chamber of Commerce and Sandoval County Leadership program (20 students participating)
- I-Safe student training (57 Students training as presenters)
- Wild Friends participation in Legislative Honorary Bill (30 students participating)
- Community service projects (i.e. teaching senior citizens how to use the internet and cell phones-students volunteer for the scheduled sessions)

School Leadership and Professional Development

- Successful completion of RRCA's Three-Year Plan proposed to RRPS in 2007-08
- Home school students returning to public school through RRCA
- Sustained collaboration meetings scheduled providing a professional environment for teachers that includes reflection, equity, and risk-taking
- Professional development, training and consulting for Best Practices in Online Learning to 12 NM schools (and districts) in support of their online programs
- Collaboration with numerous out of state online programs
- Utilizes ISTE Professional Development resources for online teaching and course evaluation standards: These standards are embedded in the school's EPSS and teacher PDP's
- Program presentations at national ISTE, NACOL and Superintendent's (NCERT) Conferences

Features: E2020 Online Core and Elective curricula
 My Skills Tutor: Diagnostic and prescriptive program (RTI)
 23 Rosetta Stone Languages
 Creative Learning Systems Math, Technology and Science Hands-On Projects
 Polar Systems: Health and Wellness Individualized PE Program
 ACT, SAT, NMSBA and GED prep

Student Quotes:

Andres: "The staff is very dedicated and loving."

Ariel: "Of all the schools I have gone to, this is the only one that has provided me with a great challenge."

Jake: "Great for flexibility, time to get classes done and do other things."

Amanda: "I am graduating in three years!"

Parent Quotes:

Michelle: "My child would not go to school. He now has a good attitude and is working."

Terry: "This is the best thing that has ever happened to our family. Everything has changed for us. My child has blossomed and feels confident about learning."

Ramona: "My child is challenged and is learning to be responsible for his part of his education."

David: "My daughter's life has changed. She is happy. I thought we were going to lose her."

