



RIO RANCHO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

500 Laser Road NE
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124

"Student Excellence"

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May 9, 2006

Dear Parent or Guardian,

New Mexico law and Rio Rancho Public Schools policy as established by the Board of Education (Policy 357) require that all students attending Rio Rancho schools must have all required immunizations before being allowed to register for and attend school, unless the child is exempted for medical or religious reasons and the appropriate applications have been approved and are on file. This includes middle and high school students who may be due for tetanus boosters or may not have been vaccinated against Hepatitis B. A copy of the policy is included with this letter for your reference.

In order to protect the health of our students and staff, this policy will be strictly enforced. Your child will not be allowed to register for or attend school in the 2006-07 school year unless he /she has all of the required immunizations and satisfactory evidence of immunization or a completed, notarized, and approved exemption or conscience objector form has been provided to the child's school.

The following immunizations are required for school attendance:

DTP, DTaP, Td (Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis)	Four doses; at least one must be given after age 4. Three doses are sufficient if the third dose is administered after the 4 th birthday.
Td/Tdap (Tetanus/Diphtheria booster)	Tdap is recommended for 7 th grade entrance in the 06-07 school year; it will be required for the 07-08 school year. Tdap recommended for all students if it has been at least five years since the last Td/DTP/DTaP. Boosters recommended for adults every 10 years.
Polio (OPV, IPV, or any combination of the two)	Three doses, the last must be administered after age 4. If the three doses were administered before age 4, a fourth dose administered after age 4 is required. Regardless of age, four or more doses with a minimum of 28 days between each dose is acceptable.
MMR (Measles/Mumps/Rubella) A measles-containing virus vaccine can substitute for one of the MMR's	Two doses administered after the first birthday at least 28 days apart; administration of the second dose is recommended on or after 4 th birthday.
Hepatitis B	Required for all students except grades 5-6. Three doses with a minimum of 4 months between the first and third dose. If child is receiving immunization for the first time and is 11-15 years old: two doses 4 months apart.
Haemophilus Influenza type B (Hib) Required for preschool students only	3 doses with 1 after first birthday or 1 dose between 16 mo-5yr.
Varicella (Chickenpox)	One dose administered after the child's first birthday, or written proof child is immune or has had disease

Before the beginning of next school year, we urge you to make sure your child's immunizations are up-to-date and to obtain the appropriate records so they can be supplied to the school.

Thank you for your prompt attention. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the principal or school nurse at your child's school.

Sincerely,

V. Sue Cleveland, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools