

**Statement of Conduct and Discipline
Student Acknowledgement Form**

***Rio Rancho Mid-High
aspires to be a community of learners that
support and celebrate a passion for excellence.***

Student rights and responsibilities are part of the life of every high school. In the educational setting, rights provide individuals with the basic framework for making sustained progress toward worthy goals. Individual responsibilities make those rights possible. Therefore, all those who are a part of the RRMH community must adhere to certain guidelines in the daily activities of this campus.

The rules and standards outlined in this handbook have been developed to protect the rights of everyone, to insure that all students and staff are treated with respect, and to assure that our school operates in a safe and orderly manner.

Please read this document carefully and note particularly the changes in policy from the past school year. *Your signature at the bottom of this page acknowledges that you have read the 2008-09 Discipline Code, understand your responsibilities as a student, and agree to follow all of the guidelines listed within this handbook including bus privileges.*

Student Name (Print)

Student Signature

Date of Receipt

Student's Academy

RIO RANCHO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HIGH SCHOOL & MID-HIGH SCHOOL
2008 – 2009 SCHOOL WEAR POLICY – SBP #349

Students are expected to be neat, clean, and appropriately dressed for learning while on campus or on school sponsored field trips. Interpretation and discretion of the following dress code is subject to administrative discretion.

FABRICS

Clothing must be cotton or cotton blend, wool or corduroy (NO NYLON OR KNIT SPANDEX)

SHIRTS

All color ranges of Henley, polo, or rugby shirts are permitted (striped or solid).

1. **All color ranges are permitted (solid or striped)**
2. Approved styles are:
 - ✓ Collared polo shirt
 - ✓ Collared rugby shirt
 - ✓ Turtleneck or mock turtleneck
 - ✓ Henley shirt (RRHS: no more than 4 buttons)
 - ✓ School Spirit T-Shirts (must have principal approval)
 - ✓ Must be long or short-sleeved (not sleeveless)
3. Must be cotton or cotton blend (no see through material, no shiny material, no denim material)
4. Insignias can be no bigger than 3 inches by 3 inches

Note: No shirts of any other styles except those listed above are allowed. No skin should be shown between the bottom of the shirt/blouse and the top of the pants/skirt when arms are stretched upward. Shirts worn out can be no longer than fingertip length.

PANTS

1. Must be **SOLID** color -Blue, Green, White, Gray, Khaki (Tan to Olive)
2. Approved styles are:
 - ✓ Classical/traditional, straight leg cut, with or without pleats, with or without cuffs (maximum hemline circumference 22" & maximum cuff width 2")
 - ✓ Cargo pants, straight leg cut (maximum hemline circumference 22" & maximum cuff width 2")
 - ✓ Overalls, straight leg cut, with or without cuffs, (maximum hemline circumference 22" & maximum cuff width 2") straps must be fastened
 - ✓ Denim blue jeans are allowed but must meet pant style guidelines.
3. Pants must fit at the waist, fit in the crotch, and be properly hemmed or cuffed. Tight fitting, stretch type pants are **NOT** allowed. Also, pants that are frayed, ripped, torn, or have holes are **NOT** allowed. No contrasting stripes or piping on pants. No sagging.

Other Attire

1. Must be a **SOLID** color – Blue, Green, White, Gray, Khaki (Tan to Olive)
2. Approved styles are:
 - ✓ **Shorts** - no shorter than the point where longest extended finger ends when the student is standing up straight (tight fitting, stretch type are **NOT** allowed)
 - ✓ **Capri pants** – straight cut (tight fitting, stretch type are **NOT** allowed)
 - ✓ **Skirts** - no shorter than the point where longest extended finger ends when the student is standing up straight (tight fitting, stretch type are **NOT** allowed)
 - ✓ **Skorts** - no shorter than the point where longest extended finger ends when the student is standing up straight (tight fitting, stretch type are **NOT** allowed)
 - ✓ **Jumpers** - no shorter than the point where longest extended finger ends when the student is standing up straight (tight fitting, stretch type are **NOT** allowed)
 - ✓ **Dresses** - no shorter than the point where longest extended finger ends when the student is standing up straight (tight fitting, stretch type are **NOT** allowed). Must have sleeves.
 - ✓ **Athletic wear/Extra/Co-Curricular Event day only apparel (Coaches/sponsors may require participants adhere to a professional dress code.)**
 - ✓ Nylon windbreaker top or sweat top acceptable

- ✓ Jerseys (t-shirts must be worn under sleeveless jerseys)
- ✓ All apparel must pertain to RRPS athletics RRMH: normal school dress code for lower body attire

3. Insignias can be no bigger than 3 inches x 3 inches

NOTE: SLITS in Skirts, Dresses, or Jumpers can be NO higher than the point where longest extended finger ends when student is standing up straight. Items with holes and frayed bottoms are NOT allowed

ACCESSORIES

1. Belts must fit around the waist and be secured in belt loops.
2. Sweaters, sweatshirts, blazers, or vests must be SOLID color - Blue, Green, Gray, White, and Khaki (Tan to Olive) and must be worn over the approved style shirts. Shirts worn under accessories must be in compliance.
3. Approved styles are:
 - ✓ Sweaters – pull-over, cardigan, or button-down – must be appropriately sized
 - ✓ Sweatshirts – must be a pull-over, appropriately sized
 - ✓ Blazers – must be appropriately sized
 - ✓ Vests – must be appropriately sized
4. Insignias can be no bigger than 3 inches x 3 inches. No contrasting stripes or piping on accessories.
5. Items worn **INSIDE** the school building for warmth **MUST MEET THE DRESS CODE.**

OUTERWEAR

1. Winter coats, winter jackets, and gloves do not have to meet the color requirements; however, these items are for **OUTSIDE wear only**.
2. If a jacket is worn inside a building, it must remain open.

Note: Jackets must be appropriately sized and may not be worn in any way that reflects gang affiliation or conceals contraband. No trench coats, over-coats or dusters may be worn.

FOOTWEAR

There are no specific color or style requirements for shoes and socks; however, all students should wear appropriate footwear.

EXCEPTIONS

1. Scout or JROTC uniforms will be permitted at the discretion of the School Principal.
2. Spirit day, photo day, professional dress day, or other special event day dress will be allowed at the discretion of the School Principal.

PROHIBITED

1. Jewelry or hairstyles that disrupt the educational process or endanger students.
2. Headgear such as bandanas and hairnets.
3. Sunglasses and hats may be worn outdoors only.
4. Belt loop chains or wallet chains, spiked jewelry, and extended belts.
5. Any items or accessories, including face painting, which advertise, display, or promote any drug (including tobacco and alcohol), sexual innuendo, violence, weaponry, profanity, hatred, or bigotry toward any group.
6. RRHS: Non Rio Rancho sweat pants. RRMH: No sweat pants.
7. Button down shirts.

IDS

1. Mid-High: School issued ID must be visible at all times. Students may wear by lanyard or clip.
2. High School: School issued ID must be visible at all times. Lanyards are not required.
3. These items are not to be defaced in any way.

CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

See Discipline Matrix

Revised 4/23/08

Families in need of financial assistance can contact their school or school district office for assistance.

Rio Rancho Mid-High School Mission and Goals

The Rio Rancho Mid-High vision is to uphold challenging standards for performance, promote student excellence, and meet adequate yearly progress.

Rio Rancho Mid-High mission is to inspire lifelong academic, social, and personal growth, by creating a climate that fosters learning, meeting the needs of ALL students through cutting edge practices, and ensuring they are prepared for a successful high school experience.

The philosophy of the Rio Rancho Mid-High School is to mesh the concepts from *Turning Points 2000* (Carnegie Council of Adolescent Development) with the main themes from *Breaking Ranks I & II* (National Association of Secondary School Principals). The recommendation from *Turning Points* which states "Schools should be places where close, trusting relationships with adults and peers create a climate for personal growth and intellectual development" can and should be incorporated into the idea that better education depends on personalization, coherency, time, technology, professional development, and leadership.

RRMH campus will aid students in the most difficult transition of their educational career. The majority of students drop out of school most often at both the eighth and ninth grades. These two grades also offer special challenges such as high rates of retention, absenteeism, and discipline problems. This campus will provide opportunities for students to develop feelings of positive self-worth and appreciation of their own uniqueness through the close teacher-student involvement.

RRMHS will form a bridge from the middle school to the high school and provide an environment for learning and programs that meet the needs of students in these transitional years. A strong foundation will be provided in the basic academic subjects as well as an opportunity to explore the interests, abilities and aptitudes of eighth and ninth grade students.

In order to accommodate students' needs at this level, the following programs will be implemented:

- ✓ Teaming at the eighth grade
- ✓ SIOP teams at both grade levels
- ✓ Credentialing / advisory
- ✓ Inclusion programs
- ✓ School within a school concept
- ✓ Comprehensive elective offerings
- ✓ Extracurricular and co-curricular connections
- ✓ Rigorous and relevant standards based curricula
- ✓ Daily focus on literacy

The RRMHS is committed to staying at the forefront of education through continuous improvement and innovation. Its strength will lie in its successful educational programs, and its capable, experienced, and caring faculty.

RRMH annually reviews its mission and goals. Changes may take place intermittently throughout the school year as updates occur.

Rio Rancho Mid-High School Schedule

| REGULAR BELL SCHEDULE | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| A Lunch | B Lunch | C Lunch | TIME |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 7:15 - 8:04 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 8:09 - 8:58 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | 9:03 - 9:52 |
| 4 A Lunch | 4 | 4 | 9:57 - 10:46 |
| 5 | 5 B Lunch | 5 | 10:51 - 11:40 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 C Lunch | 11:45 - 12:34 |
| 7 | 7 | 7 | 12:39 - 1:28 |
| 8 | 8 | 8 | 1:33 - 2:20 |
| WEDNESDAY BELL SCHEDULE | | | |
| | | | TIME |
| A Lunch | B Lunch | C Lunch | |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 7:15 - 7:59 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 8:04 - 8:47 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | 8:52 - 9:35 |
| 4 A Lunch | 4 | 4 | 9:40 - 10:23 |
| 5 | 5 B Lunch | 5 | 10:28 - 11:11 |
| 6 | 6 | 6 C Lunch | 11:16 - 11:59 |
| 7 | 7 | 7 | 12:04 - 12:47 |
| 8 | 8 | 8 | 12:52 - 1:33 |
| PLC MEETING TIME FOR TEACHERS | | | 1:40 - 2:40 |

Academy Concept

RRMH is structured in two academies. They are:

9th Grade Academy and 8th Grade Academy

Students take their core courses in their home academy but can take electives in other academies as desired and as room permits. All 8th grade students are placed on an interdisciplinary team. Students will not be cross teamed without administrative approval.

Scheduling Procedures including Changes

Students are asked to pre-register each spring. Students are encouraged to choose courses carefully, keeping in mind their five-year plan and required courses. Schedules are NOT changed after the first day of class of each term without completion of a schedule change request form and signed approval of the student's parent, academy AP, counselor, and the involved teacher. Approved schedule changes will be made that are least disruptive to the student's schedule and in consideration of class sizes. Requests to change a schedule for the purpose of a different lunch will not be approved.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

is a Federal law that governs the maintenance of student education records. Under that law, parents of students or students who are at least 18 years of age ("eligible students") have both the right to inspect education records kept by the school about the student and the right to correct inaccuracies in the record. Access to these records by persons other than the parents or the student is limited and generally requires prior consent by the parent or the student. The district has adopted a written policy governing all the rights of parents and students under FERPA. Copies of this policy may be found in the superintendent's office and in the principal's office of each school within the district.

The board of education of the Rio Rancho Public School District No. 94 (RRPS) hereby gives its annual public notice to all parents and eligible students that:

A. RRPS maintains the following education records directly related to students and subject to the limitations on disclosure provided in FERPA: Academic records, personal information records, disciplinary records, attendance records, health records, progress reports, and standardized testing records.

B. Access to education records is limited to: parents of students under 18 and parents of students over 18, if such student is dependent as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, the student, officials of this school district who have a legitimate education interest, federal, state, and local officials to whom information is required to be reported, certain test organization, accrediting organizations, appropriate persons in connection with an emergency, pursuant to subpoena or court order, to any person, with the written consent of the parent or eligible student.

C. RRPS policy requires that education records be kept to an essential or relevant minimum. Records are reviewed at the end of each school year and non-essential and irrelevant material is deleted.

D. RRPS policy limits the right of access to education records to the persons and circumstances indicated in Paragraph B above. RRPS requires that copies be made available to persons entitled to receive copies. RRPS policy provides that explanations and interpretations of records are available upon reasonable advance notice. Some records, such as standardized test scores and other material of a technical nature, may only be reviewed with a person qualified to interpret and explain such material and records. RRPS policy provides the right to request in writing an amendment of the student's educational records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. If records contain information on more than one student, the right to inspect relates only to that portion of the records concerning the particular student in question.

E. FERPA classifies certain types of information that generally would not be considered to be an invasion of privacy or harmful if released as "student directory information." Unless the parent or eligible student objects in writing as described below, school officials may release directory information, as defined under RRPS policy, to any person, including but not limited to marketers, colleges, and the media, without the consent of the parents or the eligible student. Parents/students who object to the release of any or all of this information without consent must notify, in writing, the principal of the school where the records are kept within fifteen (15) days following the date of the publication of this notice (or the enrollment of the student, if after the beginning of the school year). The objection must state what information the parent or student does not wish released. A form for filing an objection is available at all district schools and at the superintendent's office. In the absence of timely notice objecting to its release, the listed information will be classified as directory information until the beginning of the next school year.

"Directory information" as defined by RRPS policy includes: the student's name; grade in school; name of school; eligibility and participation in officially recognized activities, including

but not limited to fine arts exhibits, performing arts programs, other performances, graduation programs and sports events; weight and height of members of athletic teams; honors and awards received; yearbooks; and identification in visual media, including photographs, videotapes and video images, depicting school programs or activities.

F. Questions regarding education records shall be directed to the school's principal or to the district office Custodian of Records at 500 Laser Rd. NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, 896-0667 ext. 123. Complaints about the failure of RRPS to comply with FERPA may be made, in writing, to FERPA Office, Department of Health and Human Services, 330 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20201.

Release of Student Information to Military Recruiters:

The federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), requires school districts to provide student names, addresses, and telephone numbers to military recruiters unless the parent or student (if 18 or over) specifically requests that the information not be released without prior written parental consent. Parents of students in grades 9-12, or students aged 18 or older, who object to the release of this information are asked to complete a form indicating their objection. If the form is not completed and returned to the student's school, requests for this information will be honored. Forms are available at all schools serving students in grades 9-12 and should be returned within fifteen (15) days of the beginning of the school year or fifteen (15) days after enrollment.

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) 20 U.S.C. § 1232h, requires school districts to notify you and obtain consent or allow you to opt your child out of participating in certain school activities. These activities include a student survey, analysis, or evaluation that concerns any of the following eight specific areas ("protected information surveys"): Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent, mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family, sexual behavior or attitudes, illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior, critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships, legally-recognized privileged relationships, such as with doctors, lawyers, or ministers, religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents, and income, other as required by law to determine program eligibility.

This requirement also applies to the collection, disclosure, or use of student information for marketing purposes ("marketing surveys") and certain physical examinations and screenings ("activities").

RRPS does not currently plan to administer surveys that seek any of the "protected information" detailed above. Should a situation arise where such a survey needs to be administered, the District will provide notification to parents within a reasonable period of time prior to the administration of the surveys and activities. Parents will be provided with an explanation of the activity and will have an opportunity to review the surveys and any instructional materials used in connection therewith. Parents will have the opportunity to consent to or opt their child out of participation. The rights granted by PPRA, as well as the opportunity to consent/opt out, transfer from parents to any student who is 18 years old or is an emancipated minor under State law. Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with: Family Policy Compliance Office, U. S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-5901.

Student Assessment

RRMHS believes it is important to offer students a variety of assessment opportunities. Assessments are included as a part of every class, however, students are also measured through a variety of alternative methods including: portfolios, demonstrations, presentations, and collaborative projects. This variety of assessments allows students and teachers to identify strengths and problem areas and respond to them promptly. When problem areas are identified, teachers develop strategies to correct the problem.

Students and parents will receive progress reports and grades from their teachers every 4 ½ weeks. Specific dates are indicated in the school calendar section of this handbook.

The RRMH grading policy includes:

| Performance Level | Description of Student Performance |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| "A" Level Performance 90-100 | The student's work exceeds all of the basic requirements of the challenge/task at a very high level of competence. It is clear, carried out with unusual precision and skill, and demonstrates an in-depth understanding and analysis of the content and the challenge itself. The work is presented in an original and creative manner that communicates either new insights or intriguing perspectives. |
| "B" Level Performance 80-89 | The student's work exceeds all of the basic requirements of the challenge/task at a high level of competence. It is complete, has no significant errors, and demonstrates a thorough grasp of the content and the challenge/task itself. In addition, the work is well presented, and facts and ideas have been combined in order to generalize or explain conclusions and interpretations of the ideas and concepts studied. |
| "C" Level Performance 70-79 | The student's work satisfies the basic requirements of the challenge/task at an acceptable level of competence. It shows the required grasp of key ideas and concepts, is presented in an adequate manner, and conveys the key ideas of the challenge/task itself. Work at this level meets only the minimum level of performance and should be considered a point from which improvement should begin. |
| "D" Level Performance 60-69 | The student's work does not satisfy the basic requirements of the challenge/task and must show improvement. This work demonstrates a minimal understanding of key ideas and concepts, lacks clarity and precision in its presentation, and demonstrates little understanding of the challenge/task itself. This work meets only the minimum level of competence for granting credit. |
| "F" Level Performance Below 60 | The student has not met the basic requirements for "D Level Performance" in the course. All strategies and/or time available to satisfy this academic requirement have been exhausted, and "No Credit" will be awarded for this course work. |
| Honor Roll | To qualify for the honor roll, a student must earn a 3.5 grade point average (GPA) for the semester. |

Programs Available to Help Students

RRMH offers a variety of programs to assist students in reaching their personal and educational goals.

Tutoring and Tutorial Classes

Students on an individual basis should make arrangements with their teachers for additional help. Students may also see their counselor to discuss the option of signing up for a core lab class. Some students, due to academic history, may automatically be scheduled into a core lab class. See your counselor for more information.

The Media Center

The Media Center is more than just a collection of books. It provides a wide variety of research materials, as well as fiction and magazines to be read at leisure. As a center for information gathering and processing, the MC staff can assist with research and provide for the production of projects.

Academy Personnel

Each RRMH Academy has a team of people who are there to assist students in solving both personal and academic problems. The academy teachers, credentialing advisors, counselors, social workers, site specialists, assistant principals, and content leaders can help with many problems or can point students in the right direction. These individuals make it a point to know their academy students and want to see each and every student succeed.

Summer School

Rio Rancho Public Schools offers summer school options to all students. Students should ask their academy counselors for more information about this option.

Pre-AP Courses

RRMH offers Pre-AP core courses (humanities, math, and science). Students should apply to take one or more of these courses if they seek a more challenging educational experience and aspire to enroll in an AP course during their high school career.

Credit Recovery / Correspondence Courses

Students must request prior approval from their counselor for correspondence course to qualify for credit at RRMH (9th graders only). These courses must require that the final be supervised by certified school personnel and be earned from an accredited school. RRMH reserves the right to evaluate a course before credit is given. Students may not take a correspondence course for PE, communication skills, or a lab science.

Cyber Academy

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy opened in August 2005. This site offers students the opportunity to take courses via a virtual platform. Concurrent enrollment is an option but must be approved by RRMH and the Cyber Academy. Enrollment at the Cyber Academy is open to students at the beginning of each semester. We do not promote intra-semester transfers. Students with extenuating circumstances may schedule a meeting with the RRMH principal to discuss possible options.

Counseling

Sometimes students find themselves in difficult or confusing situations. School counselors and social workers are available to provide assistance for these situations.

Normal Class Load

The normal class load for a RRMH student is seven classes per year.

RRHS Graduation Requirements

| RRHS Grad Requirements | Class of 2009 | Class of 2010 | Class of 2011 | Class of 2012 |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| English: Eng. 9, 10, 11, 12 + Sr. Thesis | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Math: 2010 Alg req'd 2013 Alg 2 req'd or parent waiver | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Science: 2 courses must be Biology, Chemistry/Chemistry in the Community, or Physics | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Social Studies: NM History 0.5 US History 1.0 World History 1.0 Government 0.5 Economics 0.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 4 (0.5 includes Geography) |
| Communication Skills | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Foundations of PE/Health | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Fine Art | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Technology | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| World Language, Career cluster, Work Place Readiness (2013) | | | | 1 |
| Electives/Advisory | 9.5 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 9 |
| | | | | |
| Total credits req'd for graduation/Out of total possible | 28/31 | 28****/30 | 28****/29 | 28/28 |

* **NM High School Competency Exam (NMHSCE)** - New Mexico State Public Education Department requires a student to pass all parts of the NMHSCE to receive a high school diploma. Transfer students from another state must take the NMHSCE if the NMHSCE test is given while the student is enrolled at RRHS.

** **Two world language credits are recommended for college admission requirement.**
Two world language credits are not a RRHS graduation requirement but are a UNM admission requirement.

*** **Advisory** - Students with less than a 2.0 GPA for the previous semester or have failed a core class must enroll in an Advisory class for an elective credit

******Beginning with the Class of 2010** - Students must earn one **AP (Advanced Placement) course credit** or a **dual enrollment course credit** or a **distance-learning course credit**.

Additional Items of Importance

Health and Wellness

The RRMH Health Office is staffed by a registered nurse(s) and a clerical health assistant to help maintain and support the well being of our students. Nursing staff will be on campus during school hours for emergencies. **The health office is open on all school days from 7:20am – 2:32pm for health visits. The health office number is 891-5335 x 1260.**

Students who experience health problems during the school day **must report to the health office, located in the Core building.** Students are evaluated by the staff for emergency health problems and are otherwise seen in the order that they enter. To support our student's academic success, if they present in the office during passing period and are not having a health crisis, they are required to go to their next block class and get a pass from their teacher so they are not marked absent. Students will be assessed and an attempt to reach the parent will be made, unless the student declines parent contact. Attempts to reach a parent will always occur when a health problem exists or an injury is sustained during the school day. If the health office staff has assessed the student as able to remain in school and a parent cannot be reached, the student will be returned to class. Parents or other designated emergency contacts must pick up the student from school and sign them out in the attendance office. Parents are requested to report any serious injury or ongoing health conditions that occur throughout the school year to the health office to support educational success and recovery.

Rio Rancho School District Policies in accordance with the New Mexico State Department of Health, Office of School Health are as follows:

Other than meter dose inhalers, NO medications are to be carried by students on campus. This includes both prescription and over the counter medications.

Parents who wish to have over the counter medications available for distribution to their student during the school year must obtain an over the counter medication form from the health office or the district web site and return it to the health office with the medication in the original container. The medication will be provided as needed to the student in the health office.

Students who require prescription medication during the school year must obtain a prescription form from the health office or the district web site. It must be filled out by the prescribing MD and the lower parent release part signed by the parent. It must then be returned to the health office with the medication in the original prescription container and the script must match the MD orders. Prescription medications will be given within one hour of the time due and students will sign for their dose. This is assisted self-administration. When students fail to present to the health office for their medication, every attempt to locate them and provide it to them will occur. However, due to emergencies this may not always be possible. If your student consistently has to be called to the health office for medication, the health office staff will request a parent meeting with you to determine the best solution to this problem. When a student has run out of medication, the bottle will be sent home with the student and the parent will be called. Parents should bring their students medication to the health office per district policy.

Student caught in possession of either prescription or over the counter medications during the school day may be subject to Level III disciplinary measures [1st offense 5 days OSS, 2nd offense 10 days OSS]. Students who either give or sell prescription drugs or over the counter medications to other students on campus will be subject to Level III disciplinary measures under selling, distributing or exchanging an illegal substance. It is imperative to understand that both over the counter and prescription drugs have different effects on individuals and could cause great harm or even death when given to someone for whom it was not intended.

Prescription Medications and Over the Counter Medication will not be kept year to year. Students or parents must pick up the medications in the health office by the last day of school. All medications left at school will be discarded **by the nurses the last day of school.**
Physician orders for medications expire at the end of the school year, as do over the counter parent permission slips.

Visitors

Because RRMH is a closed campus with a large student body, students will NOT be able to bring visitors to school. Having a visitor, even a well-behaved and respectful one, disrupts the learning atmosphere of the classroom. All other visitors to the campus must check in at the front desk located in the reception area of the Administration Building and receive a Visitor's Pass before entering the campus. Staff at the front desk will contact the appropriate staff member, who will meet the visitor in the Reception Area and escort them to their destination on campus. Parents who visit RRMH are encouraged to park in the visitor parking lot.
Eighth and ninth grade students are not allowed to drive to school even if they have obtained a permit or license.

GI Bill Benefits

If you qualify to receive GI / VA Benefits, you should know that Rio Rancho Mid-High School's policy for eligibility requires that you maintain a 2.0 GPA and that your GPA will be monitored every 9 weeks.

Title IX Amendment

Under the provisions of Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972, public schools must make sure that all students, regardless of gender, have equivalent opportunities to participate in athletics, academics, and training programs. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for overseeing compliance with the provisions of Title IX and for investigating complaints. For further information, contact Executive Director of Student Services and Title IX Coordinator Tonna Burgos at Rio Rancho Public Schools, 500 Laser Rd. NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 896-0667 extension 129.

Section 504 Accommodations

Under the provisions of Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, public schools must make sure that all students, regardless of disability, have equivalent opportunities to participate in a free appropriate public education (FAPE). This provision applies to qualifying disabled students whose disabilities are not so severe as to create IDEA eligibility. The 504 coordinator for RRPS is responsible for overseeing compliance with the provisions of Section 504 and for investigating complaints. For further information, contact the 504 coordinator at the District Office, 500 Laser Rd. NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 896-0667.

Code of Conduct and Student Consequences

The following Mid-High Code of Conduct has been adopted to protect and foster respect for the rights of RRMH students and staff. The school is a community and the rules and regulations of the school are the laws of that community. All persons enjoying the rights of citizenship are subject to the laws of their community. Each carries with it a corresponding obligation. The right to attend public school is not absolute. It is conditioned on each student's acceptance to abide by the laws of the school community until and unless the rules are changed. Administrators are responsible for maintaining school order and discipline. Administrators are responsible for maintaining and facilitating the education program, by ensuring an orderly, safe environment in the public school. In discharging their duties, all school employees have the right to be free from intimidation or abuse and have their lawful requests and instructions followed. The following disciplinary matrix is designed to serve as a guide when administrators are determining consequences. Nothing contained within this matrix should prevent an administrator from using his or her own discretion in regards to a particular situation. Administrators will investigate all possible disciplinary situations and assign consequences in a fair and consistent manner in conjunction with local school board policy. These represent the recommended guidelines in the disposition of discipline situations at RRMH. Therefore, depending on the circumstances of the behavior or education status, responses may vary from situation to situation at the administrator's discretion.

If an incident is considered exceptionally flagrant a higher consequence, including but not limited to a disciplinary hearing, may be warranted. In some cases with Level III infractions, a DPS referral may be warranted. In both cases administrative discretion will be exercised.

| LUNCH DETENTION (LD) Loss of Extended Lunch Privilege | FRIDAY SCHOOL (FS) |
|---|--|
| Lunch Detention will occur for the first 20 minutes of lunches. Students assigned detention must be in their seats by the assigned time, be in dress code and remain until the end of the detention. Detention will be managed as a quiet study hall or video based instructional classroom and all classroom rules will apply. Lunch detention takes precedence over activities and athletics and the student may only report to an event or practice after detention is over. | Friday School will occur from 2:32 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on designated Fridays throughout the school year. Students assigned to Friday School must arrive on time, in dress code, and sign in or they will be written up for violation and sent home. Students will be expected to complete schoolwork during their time in Friday School. Students will not be dismissed early from Friday School. Friday School takes precedence over activities and athletics and the student may only report to an event or practice after detention is over. |
| IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS) | OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS) |
| In-School Suspension will occur every day from 7:15 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. Assignments from every teacher will be available in ISS. Teachers may give specialized assignments on a case-by-case basis. Students may be assigned to ISS during the course of the day. Students who are assigned a full day or more of ISS will report to the ISS room prior to the first bell with all of their basic school supplies. Students must be in dress code and will stay until the dismissal of ISS. | Students who are suspended from Rio Rancho Mid-High School are prohibited from being on the campus or in attendance at any school activity or event for the duration of their suspension. A parent meeting to develop or review a behavior plan/contract may occur prior to the student returning to school. Students who come onto any RRPS campus during an OSS will be subject to arrest and prosecution as well as additional school consequences. |

| Level I | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| Behavior | 1st Offense | 2nd Offense | 3rd Offense |
| Bus Disruptions (see separate policy) | | | |
| Dress Code Violation (Per each offense: the student will be sent to ISS until such time as the student is in compliance.) | 1-3 rd offenses, 1 LD | 4-6 th offenses, 1 FS A behavior contract will be developed upon the 6 th offense. | 7 th offense: 10 OSS, Pending hearing |
| General Disruptive Conduct (profanity, rudeness, dishonesty, etc.) | 1 LD | 1 FS | 1 day ISS |
| ID badge violation | 1-3 rd offenses, warning | 4-6 th offenses LD | 7 th offense, 1 FS or ISS |
| Public display of affection | 1 LD | 1 FS | 1 day ISS |
| Tardy | 1 st - 4 th Offense in an individual classroom will result in classroom consequences | 5 th Tardy from an individual classroom (or 5 overall during a tardy sweep) will result in 1 FS | 10 th or more 1 day ISS |

| Level II (All 3rd offenses may result in behavior contract) | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|
| Behavior | 1st Offense | 2nd Offense | 3rd Offense |
| Cheating or plagiarism | Loss of assignment credit, 1 day FS | Loss of assignment credit, 3 days OSS | 5 days OSS |
| Chronic Disruptive Conduct | 2 days ISS | 2 days OSS | 5 days OSS |
| Disrupting a school activity | 1 day ISS, removal from event (possible loss of event attendance privileges for remainder of year) | | |
| Ditching (out of class without permission) | 1 day FS | 2 days FS | 3 days OSS |
| Truancy (see definition below) | Referral to truancy officer | | |
| Failure to comply with disciplinary consequences (including skipped detention and trespassing) | Twice the previous consequences | FS or ISS | 2 days ISS or OSS |
| Falsifying or misuse of any official document or communication (including passes, ID, progress report, call to excuse absence, parent signature, etc.) | 1 day FS | 2 days FS | 3 days OSS |
| Gambling | 1 day FS | 3 days ISS | 3 days OSS |
| Hostile play/Rough Housing | 3 days ISS | 3 days OSS | 5 days OSS |
| Inappropriate use/possession of technology (using/allowing unauthorized access to software, telephones, accounts, viewing/ distributing inappropriate material) | 2 days ISS, loss of computer privileges for 10 days and restitution | 3 days OSS, loss of computer privileges for remainder of the school year and restitution | |
| Insubordination, defiance of authority or showing disrespect | 1 day FS | 3 days ISS | 3 days OSS |

| | | | |
|--|-----------|------------|-------------------|
| Possession of Inappropriate material | 1 day ISS | 3 days ISS | 3 days OSS |
| Possession/use of tobacco, rolling papers, or incendiary devices at school or school sponsored event | 1 day FS | 2 days FS | 3 days ISS or OSS |
| Level III- DPS referral may be filled on all Level III | | | |

| Behavior | 1st Offense | 2nd Offense | 3rd Offense |
|---|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Arson | 10 days OSS pending hearing | | |
| Assault (physical) of a staff member | 10 days OSS pending hearing | | |
| Assault (physical) of a student | 10 days OSS, pending hearing | | |
| Assault (verbal) of a staff member or student (including intimidating or threatening remarks and/or directed profanity) | 5 days OSS, behavior contract | 10 OSS, pending hearing | |
| Bomb Threats/False Alarms/Explosives / or (possession of) | 10 days OSS pending hearing | | |
| Fighting | 3 days OSS and 2 days ISS, possible mediation, behavior contract | 10 days OSS pending hearing | |
| Gang Related Activity | 5 days OSS, behavior contract | 10 days OSS pending hearing | |
| Habitually Disruptive Conduct (see definition, page 18) | 10 days OSS pending hearing | | |
| Harassment / bullying (Physical, racial, verbal, electronic intimidation) | 3 days OSS, 2 days ISS Harassment Seminar | 10 OSS, pending hearing | |
| Inappropriate use or possession of technology (tampering/damage to computers/network) | 5 days OSS, loss of computer privileges for the remainder of the year and restitution, behavior contract | 10 days OSS pending hearing | |
| Making a false 911 call | 5-10 days OSS, possible hearing | | |
| Personal substance abuse (consuming, solicitation, in possession, or under the influence of; alcohol, drugs, look-a-likes or other controlled substances and or paraphernalia including OTC drugs and prescription drugs) | 5 days OSS and behavior contract | 10 days OSS pending hearing | |
| Selling or distributing alcohol, drugs, look-a-likes, or other controlled substances including OTC drugs or prescription drugs | 10 days OSS pending hearing | | |
| Sexual Harassment/Misconduct (see definition, page 14) | 5 days OSS pending investigation, behavior contract | 10 days OSS pending hearing, | |
| Theft/Extortion | 3-5 days OSS, | 10 days OSS | |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| | behavior contract, possible restitution | pending hearing, possible restitution | |
| Using incendiary devices | 5 days OSS, counseling and possible restitution | 10 days OSS pending hearing and possible restitution | |
| Vandalism (involved in altering, defacing or destroying school or private property, including technology) | 5 days OSS, loss of privileges, and possible restitution | 10 days OSS pending hearing, possible restitution, loss of privileges | |
| Possession of Weapons | 5 -10 days OSS pending hearing | | |

Any school detention takes precedence over activities and athletics. The student may only report to an event or practice after detention is over. While in Out-of-School suspension, the student may not attend any school events on or off campus.

Other Discipline Policies:

DISCIPLINE FOR STUDENT INFRACTIONS ON THE SCHOOL BUS

The following infractions will result in:

Loss of bus privileges for 5-10 days

Disrespect or profanity • Standing while the bus is in motion • Throwing trash while on the bus, or throwing items at others • Getting off at the incorrect stop without prior authorization by parent and administration.

Loss of bus privileges for 10-15 days, and may include After-School Detention or Saturday School at the discretion of the administrator

Verbal harassment, physical injury, or intimidation • Failure to ride the appropriate assigned bus route • Smoking • Throwing items out the bus window • Entering or exiting the bus through the back door • Passing or walking behind the bus • Using bus equipment without authorization.

Loss of bus privileges for 15 days, or removal from the bus for the remainder of the semester/year*

Theft or vandalism – restitution is mandatory • Sexual harassment or misconduct, including indecent exposure • Gang signs • Written or verbal threats to a passer-by (pedestrian or in a vehicle) • Starting a fire or lighting matches • Failure to follow directives of bus driver, administrator or adult supervisor • Verbal harassment/profanity directed toward bus driver • Intimidation of peers on the bus or at any bus stop • Habitual behaviors (2 or more bus referrals).

Loss of bus privileges for an indefinite period of time, with possible hearing (Decision will be made in collaboration with bus company administration)*

Use or possession of illegal substance • Threat or physical harassment/assault toward the driver or a peer • Possession of a weapon • Throwing items out of the bus at a person or object.

*A meeting will be scheduled with the student's parents in any case in which the student will lose bus privileges for 15 days or more. The right to ride the bus is not absolute. Any student may have these privileges removed at any time. The school bus is an extension of the school when dealing with disciplinary guidelines.

*Parents/Guardians will be responsible for picking up student afterschool in a timely manner.

Weapons

For the purposes of school board policy, a "weapon" is any firearm, knife, explosive, or other object, even if manufactured for a nonviolent purpose that has a potential violent use. Additionally defined as a "weapon" is any "look-a-like" object that resembles an object that has a potentially violent use, if, under the surrounding circumstances the purpose of keeping or carrying the object is for use, or threat of use, as a weapon. (SBP #347-1, 2)

Searches

For the protection and security of individuals and property on the District's campuses, Board policy #339 authorizes the search of individuals, including students, their personal effects, lockers, desks and vehicles on school property, as permitted under federal and state law. Such searches may be conducted without prior parental consent or the presence of a parent. In certain circumstances random searches of personal effects, district property (such as lockers and desks) and vehicles on campus may occur, including random searches with the assistance of canines. Any illegal or unauthorized objects found in any search are subject to seizure.

Video Surveillance

For the protection and security of individuals and property on the District's campuses, Board policy #448 allows for use of video surveillance equipment. RRMH employs a comprehensive system of cameras which are used to provide a safe and secure educational environment.

Lockers

Lockers are owned by the school and will have school-issued locks attached. It is expected that lockers will be kept clean. In addition to regular maintenance, students will be given two opportunities per year to clean out their lockers. State law allows the searching of student-issued lockers upon reasonable suspicion of illegal or unauthorized materials or for other reasons in the best interest of the school. Students will be responsible for all items left in their lockers including books and other school property and at no time should students keep money or valuable personal items in their lockers. Locks found on unassigned lockers will be cut and removed by the school. In the event that a locker needs to be opened and the student has provided a false or inaccurate combination, that lock may be cut and removed by the school. (SBP #339-1) *Administrators will not investigate instances of items stolen from lockers.*

Electronic Devices

Rio Rancho Public Schools is committed to providing a safe, positive and productive learning and working environment. The use of Electronic Devices on school campuses has increased classroom disruptions and resulted in an increase of threatening and inappropriate communications. The term "Electronic Devices" shall mean any and all devices which accomplish their purposes electronically and include, without limitation, cell phones, pagers, electronic emailing devices (e.g., Blackberry), radios, tape players, CD players, DVD players, video cameras, iPods or other MP3 players, laser pointers, portable video game players, laptop computers, personal digital assistants (PDAs), cameras, and any device that provides a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet.

Consequently, the use of any and all Electronic Devices by students during the school day, whether on-campus or during a school-sponsored event, is strictly prohibited. The "school day" shall mean the normal hours of operation of the school. While students are not prohibited from possessing Electronic Devices, unless otherwise prohibited by law or District policies, rules or procedures, the Electronic Devices must be turned "off" and stored in a student's backpack or purse, locker, or vehicle. This Policy does not apply to the sanctioned use of Electronic Devices by teachers, or students under the direct supervision of their teacher, for educational purposes.

Use of Electronic Devices in violation of this policy shall result in the confiscation of the Electronic Device. After the first offense, the student may recover the Electronic Device from the school's administrative office at the end of the school day. After the second offense, the student's parent/guardian shall be notified that the student has twice violated this policy and

that the parent/guardian must recover the Electronic Device from the school's administrative office. After the third offense, the Electronic Device will be confiscated for the remainder of the school year. Electronic Devices that are not recovered at the end of the school year may be disposed of by the District. A student who violates this policy more than two (2) times during the school year also may be subject to discipline under District Policy 336 for engaging in willfully disruptive conduct.

The District shall not be liable or responsible for the loss of or damage to any Electronic Device confiscated from a student pursuant to this policy.

This policy does not prohibit the use of Electronic Devices on school buses or extracurricular activity buses unless otherwise restricted by District staff responsible for the activity.

Skateboards/Rollerblades/Scooters/Roller-shoes/Bicycles

Because of concerns for safety and security, skateboards and rollerblades are not to be used at anytime on campus. Bicycles shall be dismounted once on campus and secured to one of the bike racks provided. RRMH is not responsible for any loss, theft, or damage of skateboards, rollerblades, bicycles, etc. brought onto campus. Bicycle and skateboard use to and from school requires use of a helmet (effective July 1, 2007 new state law). Parents can be cited by DPS for failure to have their students comply with this statute.

Habitually Disruptive Behavior

Habitually disruptive behavior is defined as a student who fails to comply with consequence or is a disruption in the classroom, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at school activities or events at least five times during the school year for behavior which is initiated, willful and overt and which requires attention of school personnel to deal with the disruption. [SBP #336 II A1b(4)]

Sexual Harassment/Misconduct

Sexual harassment regarding student-to-student, adult-to-student and student-to-adult conduct means unwelcome or unwanted conduct of a sexual nature (verbal, nonverbal, or physical). Any sexual harassment should be reported to a staff member immediately. (SPB #337)

Attendance Policies

Students who attend school regularly and attend classes on time afford themselves more learning opportunities than those who are frequently absent or tardy. Regular and prompt attendance helps students experience continuity in lessons, make connections to other work, and develop a strong work ethic. In addition, the State of New Mexico mandates that students attend school regularly and on time – a policy that RRMH fully supports.

Excusing Absences - To request that an absence be excused, the parent or legal guardian must call 891-5335 x 1252 the day his/her child is absent stating the student's name, grade and reason for the absence. Parents/guardians have 24 hours to request that an all-day absence or an absence beginning with first block be excused. Notes will not be accepted in lieu of phone calls.

Absences *may be excused* for the following reasons:

- Doctor/counseling appointment
- Illness (A doctor's note may be required after the third absence)
- Death in the family
- Family emergency
- Religious commitment
- Diagnostic testing
- School sponsored activity

- Extenuating circumstances, as agreed by the school administration prior to the absence.

Parents requesting extended absences (5 days or more) for family needs must have prior principal permission.

If a student has an excessive amount of excused absences, the administration will require documentation from a medical professional.

School-Related Absences – In accordance with state guidelines, students will be granted a maximum of seven absences per term for school-related activities. Students are responsible for all work missed during school-related absences.

Appointments - Students must sign out and back in upon returning.

Unverified / Unexcused Absences – An unverified absence is one for which no parent contact is made to the school that explains the student’s absence and will be considered as a truancy violation. An unexcused absence is one for which no appropriate excuse is provided (see excused absences above) by the student’s parent or legal guardian. A student with unverified / unexcused absences may be subject to disciplinary action.

Truancy – Truancy is defined by the State of New Mexico and the Rio Rancho School District as any unexcused absence from school for the entire day. “Habitual truant” means a student has accumulated the equivalent of ten or more unexcused absences within a school year. “Truant” means a student has accumulated four unexcused absences within any twenty-day period. Truancy will result in the consequences listed in the “Number of Unexcused Absence” matrix as well as the discipline matrix and can include a referral to the RRPS truancy officer and the probation services office of the judicial district where the student resides.

| Number of Unverified/ Unexcused Absences | School Action |
|---|--|
| Daily | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automated phone call to the home. |
| 3 days | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter is mailed home by administration. |
| 5 days | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter is mailed home by administration. • Parent & Student to sign attendance contract. |
| 7 days | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home visit by Truancy Personnel. • Letter sent home. |
| 10 days | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home visit by Truancy Personnel. • Letter sent home. • JPO referral and District Attorney notification |

***Violation of the Attendance Contract “Options”**

1. **Criminal Complaint written and served by law enforcement. Complaint forwarded to District Attorney’s office.**
2. **Loss of Credit – ISS Study Hall**
3. **Hearing**
4. **Teen Court**
5. **Friday School to make-up time**

Ditching – Ditching is defined as being out of class without permission. Ditching means that the student has been on campus for part of the day and has chosen to miss part of a class or one or more blocks. Ditching will result in disciplinary consequences as listed in the Level II section of the discipline matrix.

Making Up Work – A student who is absent, whether excused or unexcused, is required to make up work. The student will have 24 hours to make up work for each absence unless given more time by the teacher. (exp. students will have two days to hand in work if he/she missed two days of school).

It is the student's responsibility to get the make up work from the teacher and students who do not make up work, or do not make it up within the required time period, will receive 0% for the work missed. Failure to make up missed class work and assignments may affect the student's reportable grades and may result in loss of credit for the semester.

Documentation of Absences – A computerized list of absences and tardies is maintained for every student. Parents who would like a copy of their child's attendance should request a copy from the attendance secretary or check Parent Connect.

Tardy Policy

Tardy To School

Parents must call school prior to their student's arrival at school on the day of a tardy. Tardies will be excused or unexcused based on the same criteria as absences. Students who are tardy due to an appointment should follow the process outlined in the section titled "Appointments". Students arriving to school tardy must report to the attendance office, sign in, and request a pass to class.

Unexcused tardies include, but are not limited to: Sleeping in, car trouble, no ride, missing the bus, and student employment.

Hall Passes

Students may only receive permission to leave class from their assigned classroom teacher or a school administrator. An arrangement to leave class for any reason must take place prior to the student leaving. Teachers are not required to honor a request to leave after the fact and may write up such an action as ditching. All students out of class need to have 1) signed out of their classroom and 2) secured a teacher's ID pass or a pass from an administrator.

Student ID's/Agendas/Lanyards

Student ID--Your Password for Access to the Campus

To insure that no unauthorized individuals are on our campus at any time during the school day, students at RRMH are required to have their school issued student ID cards worn on a lanyard or clip on campus. It must be visible to any staff member during class and in the hallways and it is not to be defaced or altered in anyway. Students will be subject to disciplinary consequences if ID cards are not worn. ID cards will be required to:

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Check out materials from the Media Center | Maintain network account |
| Attend school events (including dances) | Obtain a yearbook |
| Check out textbooks | Ride the school bus |
| Attend Summer school | Cafeteria account |

During registration of each school year, students are required to pay an activity fee of \$20.00. This fee covers the cost of the agenda book, ID, protective case or clip, lanyard, field trips and most lab fees. If a student loses one of the aforementioned items, they need to replace it. See below for costs of these items.

Students who lose school-owned or school-required items must:

Pay for their replacement. Failure to do so will result in held report cards, books, transcripts or other school documents, and/or loss of Media Center privileges.

Lanyard . . . \$2.00 ID...\$3.00 Protective Case/Clip...\$1.00 Agenda . . . \$5.00
Textbook/library book...replacement

Computer Use at RRMH

With so many different pieces of modern technology available for use at RRMH, it is imperative that students respect and properly care for all school equipment. Likewise, it is equally important that students respect the work of others and that they do not access, copy, or alter files that were not created by them without proper permission. Actions which will be considered grounds for disciplinary and possible legal action include plagiarism, copyright violations, invasion of privacy, unauthorized access, or any action that **could** result in damage to computer files, systems or facilities or which violate RRMH rules/policies. Additionally, all students and their parents or guardians are required to sign the district's Rules of Appropriate Use which detail the rules for using our internal computer network as well as the Internet/WWW.

Your Student Network Account

Students must know the following before using their network account:

- You may only log onto one machine at a time.
- Only you may use your account. Don't share your ID number or password with anyone.
- You are responsible for ALL activity while your account is logged in. If you walk away from a computer while logged in, you're still responsible.
- Read the discipline code. If you use or plan to use technology to do harm, you risk losing your computer privileges as well as being suspended or expelled from school.
- Activities on our school network are monitored.

RRMH computers and equipment may only be used for educational activities. This is a policy of the RRPS School Board.

Interscholastic Athletics and Clubs

Why athletics? Why clubs? These activities are part and parcel of every school curriculum. We realize that they play a large role in helping students enjoy success in and out of the classroom. Therefore, it is the philosophy of Rio Rancho Mid-High School to encourage participation in a variety of sports, clubs, and activities. No matter what you choose to do, it will help to make your high school years more satisfying.

In order to ensure increased participation by student athletes, begin to build a sense of school spirit/cohesiveness, and effectively manage the existing two team framework (currently at grade 8 & 9), we recommend that we do the following beginning July 2008. All Rio Rancho Mid-High (RRMH) students grade 8 & 9 will be designated by the high school they will feed into. Rather than continue to play one blue and one green team (two-team format) we would move to one RRHS and one CHS team at each grade. This structure begins to address the district's goals and will provide an opportunity to start building a sense of identity for CHS students and teams. This will be done in (football, volleyball, basketball, softball, baseball, cheerleading, and possibly soccer). All other sports will continue to be unified until the opening of CHS in 2009.

What Classification Are We? In What District? What Other Teams Are in Our District?

For the 2008-2009 school year we will be classified as AAAAA. During this year we will be participating in the Central Jr. High/Middle School Athletic Region which is made up of Bernalillo, Edgewood, Gallup, Grants, Academy, Belen, Los Lunas, Manzano Vista and Moriarty and 1AAAAA District, which is made up of West Mesa, Cibola, and Gallup High Schools. On occasion, we play against northern teams as well: Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Cuba, Santa Domingo Pueblo and Espanola.

What Does Scholastic Eligibility Mean?

In order to enjoy the privilege of participating in interscholastic athletics, you must meet academic standards established by the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) and the Rio Rancho Public School District. This academic eligibility includes not only those students involved in athletics, but also those students participating in band, orchestra, choir, speech, theater, cheerleading, and drill team.

What Are the Academic Eligibility Requirements?

A student shall have a 2.0 grade point average with no more than one (1) F, based on a 4.0 grading scale, or its equivalent, either cumulatively or for the grading period immediately preceding participation. (Note: All class work counted for eligibility must be acceptable for graduation. The GPA is based on a 4.0 scale with an allowance for consideration of honors points. The cumulative provision may be applied only at the beginning of a semester and only semester grades can be used. Stricter guidelines may be imposed by the local school board/district.) A student must be enrolled in more than half of the member school's regular class schedule and in regular attendance during the current as well as the previous grading period. By state statute, no student shall be absent from school-sponsored interscholastic extracurricular activities in excess of fifteen days per semester, and no class may be missed in excess of fifteen times per semester. The state superintendent may issue a waiver relating to the number of absences for participation in any state or national competition.

Academically Ineligible Player:

The student may practice with the team if he/she demonstrates academic progress towards eligibility. The student CANNOT participate in any interscholastic event at any level of competition during her period of academic ineligibility. The student CANNOT travel to any interscholastic event or activity with the team during the period of academic ineligibility. A student may make up one (1) semester class during summer school by earning a passing grade in that class.

Transfer Students:

When a student changes schools after the Open Enrollment Choice, he/she will be classified as a transfer student. The NMAA prohibits the transfer of students for athletic or activity purposes. A student who chooses to enroll in a high school outside the attendance boundaries of the student's bona fide residence or resides with someone other than his or her parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) is classified as a transfer student and is subject to all transfer rules and regulations.

Consequences for not reporting properly:

Failure to follow the approved local school district Open Enrollment process or providing false information to the school for enrollment purposes will result in the following.

1. The student is suspended from participation immediately.
2. Once a student achieves an approved Open Enrollment to the school of his/her choice, he or she will be ineligible for 180 school days/365 calendar days from the time of any newly approved enrollment.
3. Reporting false information will result in a 365 day suspension.

Bona Fide Residence Criteria:

- Documentation for the establishment of a bona fide residence shall be proved to the NMAA.
- Parents must provide documentation to verify the purchase, lease, or rental of a home or living quarters located in the new attendance zone. A lease or rental agreement should be for at least one year in duration.
- There shall be furniture and personal effects in the new district and attendance zone, and none left in the previous attendance zone.
- The parent or legal guardian must receive their mail in the new district or attendance zone.
- The siblings of the student must also attend the same attendance zone.
- The parents/legal guardian must intend to live in the new attendance zone indefinitely.
- Parent Voter Registration reflects bona fide residence address.

Undue Influence:

The use of any of the following inducements constitutes undue influence: Participants living with coach, principal, teacher, or school official without legal guardianship, any inducement to get parents or students to change residence for athletic/activity purposes, offer or acceptance of money, reduction or remission of regular tuition (other than need-based financial aid available to all applicants), offer or acceptance of board, room, or clothing, offer or acceptance of money for work in excess of amount regularly paid, transportation to school by any school official, offer or acceptance of school privileges not normally granted to other students, free or reduced rent for parents, offer for payment of moving expenses for parents.

Transfer student eligibility status:

Ineligible for varsity competition for 180 school days/365 calendar days. School days are determined using the official local school district's calendar and does not include summer school.

Eligible immediately for sub-varsity level competition. Senior transfer students may not compete on the sub-varsity level.

More detailed transfer information can be found in the NMAA Handbook found online at www.nmact.org.

Petition Process:

The petitioner shall submit to the NMAA office and use the required forms and documents. A student may not participate until a decision in writing is made by the NMAA.

Holding students back/"Red Shirting":

A student is eligible for senior high school interscholastic competition for ten (10) "consecutive" semesters starting with the eighth (8th) grade year.

- A. Age limitations apply in all cases. (See below)
 - B. A student uses a semester of eligibility if he or she attends one or more class periods in a semester.
 - C. The eighth (8th) grade semesters must be consecutive and within the same academic year.
- 6th Grade: Must be less than 13 on August 31st of that year.
 - 7th Grade: Must be less than 14 on August 31st of that year.
 - 8th Grade: Must be less than 15 on August 31st of that year.
 - 9th Grade: Must be less than 16 on August 31st of that year.

What Is Required to Participate in Athletics?

In order for any student to participate on an athletic team in any capacity a "Green Slip" must be obtained.

1. Pick up a physical packet from the Athletic office or Trainer's office in the Mid-High Gymnasium.
2. Complete a physical examination by a physician.
3. Parents and student must completely fill out and sign every portion of the physical packet and turn it back into either the Athletic office or to the Athletic Trainer.
4. Upon turning this packet in and getting your academic eligibility checked, you will receive a "Green Slip".
5. Hand the "Green Slip" to your coach and make sure your name is added to the team roster.
6. You are now able to participate.

What Are the Seasonal Sports Offered at RRMH?

The following sports are offered at RRMH:

| Fall | Winter | Spring |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Boys/Girls Cross Country | Boys/Girls Basketball | Baseball |
| Football | Boys/Girls Swimming | Boys/Girls Golf |
| Volleyball | Wrestling | Boys/Girls Tennis |
| Boys/Girls Soccer | Cheer | Boys/Girls Track |
| Cheer | | Softball |

What Clubs and School-Sponsored Activities are Available to Students at Rio Rancho Mid-High School?

Why become involved in activities anyway? To get the most out of school, you have to be involved at school! The more you work with school activities, the better your grades and performance will be. Activities and academics equal excellence in education. For example, Builders Club builds self-respect, self-esteem, self-confidence, and teaches the value of teamwork.

The following clubs/activities are examples of what may be offered during the year at RRMH:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| Builders Club | Associated Students (Student Government) | Super Computing Club | Anime Photography Club |
| Drama Club/Thespians | RythAMetteS (Drill Team) | STOMP Club | Chess Radically squared |
| Fellowship of Christian Athletes | Guitar Club | Art Club | Creative Writing Scrapbook Club |
| Junior National Honor Society | Radical-ly Squared | Astronomy Club Society | Junior National Honor Tree Huggers Club |
| MCJROTC Color Guard | Gay Straight Alliance | Speech/Debate Club | Native American World Culture Club |

Check in the Activities Office for more information on school-sponsored activities.

School Calendar 2008-2009

| Date | Event |
|---|--|
| August 12 | <i>Classes Begin</i> |
| September 1 | <i>NO SCHOOL- Labor Day</i> |
| Sept. 29 – Oct. 4 | <i>Homecoming Week*</i> |
| September 12 | <i>Progress Reports*</i> |
| October 8-9 | <i>NO SCHOOL-In-service Days</i> |
| October 10 | <i>NO SCHOOL - Fall Break</i> |
| October 15 | <i>End of First Grading Period</i> |
| November 3-4 | <i>Student/Teacher/Parent Conference for all students by appointment*- NO SCHOOL</i> |
| November 17 | <i>Progress Reports*</i> |
| November 26-28 | <i>NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Holiday</i> |
| December 17-18 | <i>Final Exams</i> |
| December 19 | <i>Make-up Finals only/End First Term</i> |
| December 22 - January 2 | <i>NO SCHOOL - Winter Break</i> |
| January 5 | <i>Classes Resume Begin New Term</i> |
| January 19 | <i>NO SCHOOL – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i> |
| February 6 | <i>Progress Reports*</i> |
| February 13 | <i>NO SCHOOL-In-service Day</i> |
| February 16 | <i>NO SCHOOL – Presidents Day(possible snow day)</i> |
| March 11 | <i>End of Third Grading Period</i> |
| March 19-20 | <i>Student/Teacher/Parent Conference for all students by appointment*- NO SCHOOL</i> |
| March 23-27 | <i>NO SCHOOL - Spring Break</i> |
| April 10 | <i>NO SCHOOL – Staff In-service day</i> |
| April 17 | <i>Progress Reports*</i> |
| May 18 | <i>Graduation*</i> |
| May 20 & 21 | <i>Final Exams*</i> |
| May 22 | <i>Make-up Final Exams, Last Day of School</i> |
| *These dates may be subject to change. Please check with the school for any updates. | |