

CIELO AZUL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**3804 SHILOH RD NE
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WEB PAGE: [HTTP://CIELOAZUL.RRPS.NET](http://CIELOAZUL.RRPS.NET)**

Vision:

To Ignite Student Potential

Mission:

RRPS is dedicated to graduating each student with an educational foundation for success as a responsible, ethical contributor of society.

2016-2017

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK



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2016-2017 SCHOOL CALENDAR A YEAR AT A GLANCE

DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

August 4	New Staff Orientation
August 5-9	Planning/In-Service – ALL STAFF
August 10-11	Elementary Testing
August 12	Planning Elementary
August 15	First Day Elementary
September 5	Labor Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL
October 6	District In-Service – ALL STAFF
October 7	Fall Break – NO SCHOOL
November 7	End of 1 st Trimester Elementary
November 8	Election Day – No School
November 11	Veteran’s Day Holiday –No School
November 21-22	Parent Teacher Conferences –ELEMENTARY
November 23-25	Thanksgiving Holiday –No School
December 19-30	Winter Break
January 2	Planning Day –In Service
January 3	School Resumes- All Students
January 16	MLK Jr. Holiday – NO SCHOOL
February 20	President’s Day – NO SCHOOL
February 23	End 2 nd Trimester – Elementary
March 2-3	Parent Teacher Conferences –Elementary – No School
March 20-24	Spring Break
April 3-28	Proposed PARCC Testing Window
April 14	Vernal Holiday – no school
May	EOY Exams
May 15	RRHS Graduation
May 16	CHS Graduation
May 19	RRCA Graduation
May 20	IHS Graduation
May 22	LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS & STAFF
May 23-25 ***	***Weather Make-Up Days****

Other events may be scheduled during the school year and notification will go out in the Raven Reporter.

OFFICE HOURS

Front Office Hours Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

BELL SCHEDULE

8:45 AM	Staff on Duty
8:55 AM	First Bell- Students Line Up
9:00 AM	Tardy Bell and Instruction begins
12:45 PM	Wednesday School Dismissal
4:00 PM	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Dismissal
4:15 PM	Staff off Duty

ATTENDANCE

Definition of an Attendance Day—Students are considered to be in attendance when in class or in a school-approved activity. If a student attends school for one-half or less of the total instructional time, the student will be counted as having attended for one-half day. The one-half day mark is at 12:30 pm (12:00 on Wednesdays) If the student attends school for more than one-half of the total instructional time, the student will be counted as having attended for a full day.

Prompt and regular attendance is essential for a student to attain academic success. Missed days, being tardy and leaving early can leave gaps in the educational process. Please make every effort to get your child to school on time every day. (RRPS Board Policy 305-1 view at <http://rrps-school-board.rrps.net>)

Absences will be excused for the following reasons: doctor's appointment (please bring in doctor's note), illness, a death in the family, emergency, religious commitment, diagnostic testing or other circumstances approved by the school administrator. Vacations are considered unexcused absences. A written request to the principal will be considered.

RRPS ATTENDANCE POLICY

- When a student is absent, contact your child's teacher and request make-up work. All teachers have voice mail. Your child will have as many days to make-up the work as he/she was absent. (i.e. 3 days absent/3 days to make-up work) Please allow the teacher at least 4 hours notice before picking up work in the front office. If a student has an unexcused absence, the teacher is not expected to provide make-up work for the student.
- When a student accrues 10 or more excused absences or 3 unexcused absences, the principal will send a letter to the parent/guardian stating specific attendance policies.
- When a student has 10 or more unexcused absences during a semester, the case may be referred to the Rio Rancho Public Schools Truancy Office who will contact you to discuss student attendance and the New Mexico Compulsory Attendance Law.
- When a student has received 10 consecutive absences during the school year, the child will be automatically dis-enrolled.

Reporting a Student Absent

If your child will be absent, please call the Attendance Line 338-2320 before 9:30 am on the day of the absence and leave the following information:

Name of child, Teacher's Name, Reason for absence, and Your name & relationship

The administrative office will make a call to check on any child who does not have a parent/guardian reported absence.

Tardies

When your child is tardy, he or she is missing instruction for the day. If your child comes in late, he or she will miss this information and the class will be disrupted. **In the event a tardy cannot be avoided, a parent must bring the student into the building to receive a tardy slip.** At 9:00 a student is considered tardy and must get a tardy slip before reporting to class. **For safety reasons please do not drop your student off and let him or her walk in unsupervised.** Your child's safety is very important to us. No student will be admitted after 9:00 am to class without a note from the office. An exception will be made in the case of a late bus and this will be announced to staff.

Excusing Students from School

A child is not permitted to leave the school grounds before regular dismissal without parent/guardians checking them out, in person, through the office. Parents are to come directly to the office, sign their child out, and the child will be called from the classroom. Please be ready to show your ID. Try to schedule doctor and dentist appointments after or before school or on Wednesday afternoons if possible. No one may check your child out of school unless they are listed on the registration card or you have notified us in writing prior to the dismissal with verbal verification. **Students will not be released after 3:30 PM on M,T,Th, F and 12:15 on Wednesday without permission of the principal or his/her designee**

- **Please exercise caution and patience while driving in school zones. SPEED LIMIT IS 5 MPH.**

Supervision of students begins at 8:45 am and ends at 4:15 pm. Staff members are not monitoring students prior to or after that time. If your child is consistently arriving early, walks to school early, or is consistently picked up late, you will receive notice from the principal, and possible referral to Children Youth and Families Division. **Please be advised that consistently allowing your child to be unsupervised before and after school hours constitutes neglect.**

If you have an appointment with a staff member or are volunteering in the school, remember to park in the parking lot in front of the school. Please do not park in the drop-off lane. You will block access for families dropping off children.

Students should only be picked up and dropped off along the curb of the parking lot off of Shiloh Avenue NE. The parking lot off of the access road is for buses only. Cars parked in the bus parking lot on the southeast side of the school will be towed away. Please, for the safety of

everyone do NOT use your cell phone or be distracted in any way when students are present during drop-off and/or pick-up.

The drop-off zone in front of the school is between the gates on either end of the fire lane in front of the school. Please DO NOT drop-off or pick-up outside of these areas.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURES

Drop-Off Procedures

You may park in the parking lot on the east side of the administration building (off of Shiloh Ave) and walk your child across the crosswalk. If you choose to drop your child off from your vehicle, please pull your car as far forward as possible along the curb to allow cars to fill in behind you. Students should exit the vehicle on the right side of the vehicle only. Please help keep the traffic flowing by having students ready to get out with bags in hand when the car comes to a stop. Once your child leaves your vehicle he or she is to stay on the sidewalk away from traffic. **Students are not allowed to be dropped off without being accompanied by an adult anywhere but the drop-off lane.**

Pick-up Procedures

You may park in the parking lot on the east side of the administration building (off of Shiloh Ave), meet your child in front of the building, and walk your child **across the crosswalk** to your car. If you choose to wait for your child in your vehicle, please pull your car as far forward as possible along the curb to allow cars to fill in behind you. **Students will enter cars east of the crosswalk only. Please do not allow your child to walk along the sidewalk and enter your vehicle.** Once your child has entered your vehicle, please pull out and exit the lane. If the car in front of you has pulled out and you are still waiting, please pull forward to allow cars behind you to pull to the curb. Students may enter vehicles anywhere along the curb.

CROSS WALK PROCEDURES

All visitors to the school are asked to use the cross walk area to access the school from the parking lot. Please do not park and go around the ends of the fence to cross through traffic. Remember the safety of your children comes first and we ask all adults to model the correct behavior.

Wilpett Road and King Blvd. and Wilpett and Shiloh Crossing

- Children walking to school who must cross Wilpett Road or King Blvd. to come on campus **MUST use the cross walk.** The cross walks are monitored daily by a crossing guard who will ensure that students are able to cross the street safely. Please remind your child to wait for the crossing guard to give the signal to cross. Always have your student walk (never run) across the crosswalk. Parents and students must remember to be courteous to the crossing guard.

Older Siblings Picking Up Children from School - Middle school and high school students are **not allowed on the campus** unless accompanied by a parent. Special permission may be granted by the principal for those middle school students who need to pick up younger siblings.

While waiting for siblings they must display respectful and appropriate behavior. Offenders will be warned one time then will be reported to DPS. All older siblings are required to follow the school rules as outlined in this handbook.

INCLEMENT WEATHER, ABBRVIATED DAYS, & EARLY DISMISSAL

An abbreviated day begins two hours later than the regular schedule. Bus schedules are also delayed two hours. Notification is usually given by 6:00 a.m. should the complete cancellation of school be necessary. Notification is usually given by 8:00 a.m. when an abbreviated day is called. Please avoid calling the school or the district office for this information. It is recommended that families plan for such emergency closures. The SAFE program will be on a two hour delay when the schools are on a delay. In the event that school is canceled, SAFE is also canceled. On an abbreviated day school starts at 11:00.

To get information about school schedules during inclement weather listen to:

Radio: KOB AM770; KRST FM 92.3; KOB FM 93.3

TV: KOB Channel 4; KOAT Channel 7; KRQE Channel 13

You may also visit our website: www.rmps.net

If severe weather conditions materialize during the school day, the decision for early dismissal must be made by 11:30 am and will be announced on the radio and TV. Families should have alternate arrangements for their children in this event. Bus students will go home on the bus and the walkers will walk home. Be sure that someone is there for your child to let him or her in when they arrive. We realize that many of our families work in Albuquerque or Santa Fe and will not be able to pick their child up as usual. As a family, plan where your child is to go, and what neighbors or other family members will take care of your child, then let the school know in writing on the Acknowledgement of Handbook page at the front of this handbook. Be sure your child returns it to his/her teacher.

Please go to ww.rmps.net and link to the new Student Transportation Handbook.

BUS ARRANGEMENTS

Please be sure your child knows where to go after school each day. It is a disruption to the entire class when messages must be delivered. In the event that emergencies arise, a message will be promptly delivered to the classroom. Children who normally ride the bus will always be placed on the bus. The only time they will not be placed on the bus is if a written note is given to the teacher alerting him or her of the changes. Children will not be allowed to change buses unless it has been approved by the Student Transportation Office at RRPS (338-0078 ext. 104). Changing buses for social reasons is not acceptable. **All** arrangements must be communicated by the parent to the teacher if any changes are made relating to arrival or departure from the school.

BICYCLE & SCOOTER SAFETY

Children are permitted to ride bicycles or scooters to school. To ensure their safety, the following rules must be followed. Please discuss them with your child.

- Children may ride their bicycles or scooters on public roads, but *must walk bikes and scooters any time they are on school grounds.*
- Bicycles must be stored on the bicycle rack and secured with a lock. Scooters must be folded up and kept in back packs or secured at the bicycle rack.
- Children are required to wear helmets while riding bicycles and scooters.
- **Shoes with wheels are NOT allowed on campus!**

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Students Achieving For Excellence (SAFE) Before and After School Program

For children K-5th Grade

- Limited to 100 students per site
- Contact: The SAFE Program Manager
- (505) 896-0667 ext. 51237 or Jane Hogland, Secretary at ext. 51237
- Cielo Azul Site Supervisor: Ken Morrison 338-2320
- Before School: M-F 7:00 -8:55 am / After School 4:10-6:00 pm
- After School: M-F After School Release - 6:00 pm (Including Wednesdays)

SCHOOL RULES

A safe and orderly environment that supports learning is a goal of both the school and the district. School rules help maintain both. Students learn better when they know what to expect of their surroundings, of the behavior of others and of themselves. Cielo Azul Elementary School will continue using Positive Behavior Support (PBS) this year. PBS is a major advance in school-wide discipline which emphasizes proactive strategies for defining, teaching and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environments.

Parents should read the rules to students and help teach the rules. When parents support the school's expectations of appropriate behavior, students have more success, both with behavior and achievement.

We will be focusing on five major behaviors this year. We will expect the students to be Safe, On Time, have an A PLUS Attitude, show Respect, and Responsibility. The following matrices delineate our expectation in a variety of situations. It is important to note that this is a work in progress and as such, not all scenarios have been covered in our matrices, students are expected to do the "right" thing.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

Common Area	Responsible	Respectful	Safe/On Time	A+ Attitude	A+ Attitude
All Common Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Follow school rules. *Remind others to follow school rules. *Take proper care of all personal belongings and school equipment. *Tell the truth. *Walk directly to destination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Clean up after self. *Follow and listen for directions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Walk facing forward. *Keep hands, feet and objects to self. *Get adult help for accidents and spills. *Use all equipment and materials appropriately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Be thankful. *Speak politely. *Display a positive attitude. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Use kind words and actions. *Use good manners.
Line Behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Eyes and body facing to front. *Keep the line together. *Report problems to your teacher or an adult. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wait patiently. *Use quiet voices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Keep hands by your side. *Always walk. *Listen for directions. *Hold the door open for the person behind you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Say "Thank You" to the door holder. *Speak and walk politely. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Keep your hands off the wall and table. *Use good manners.
Cafeteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wait quietly in line. *Keep the line moving. *Wait to be excused as a class. *Get all utensils, milk, etc. when first 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Use quiet voices. *Clean up after self. *Stay in order and speak your name clearly. *Respect others personal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Keep all food to self. *Sit with knees under the table, bottom on bench, and facing forward. *Enter and exit according to traffic pattern. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Be patient. *Be grateful for the choices you have. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Say "Please" and "Thank You". *Don't save seats. *Use kind words and appropriate language.

	going through the line. *Make good choices and eat what you take.	space. *Dispose of food and tray properly.			
Playground/ Recess	*Use bathroom pass for leaving the area. *Get a pass from a duty and return it to a duty. *One person per pass. *Use bathrooms by the gym only. *Be prepared for the weather and take your items with you when you leave.	*Play fairly. *Include others. *Respect the equipment and environment. *Share the equipment. *Follow the rules. *Put your trash in the trash can.	*Walk to and from the playground. *Stay within boundaries. *Be aware of activities/games around you. *No play fighting or real fighting. *What is on the ground STAYS on the ground (rocks, woodchips, sand, ice, snow, etc.) *Use all equipment and materials appropriately. *Get adult help for accidents.	*Resolve problems with words. *Use mediators.	*Include others. *Make new friends.

Passing Areas Halls Sidewalks Portable Areas	*Walk at all times. *Stay on sidewalks. *Walk directly to your destination.	*Hold the door open for the person behind you. *Use quiet voices.	*Follow the traffic pattern. *Stay with your group.	*Say "Thank You" to the person holding the door.	*Be courteous to others. *Say "Excuse Me".
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Bathrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Flush toilet after use. *Return to room promptly. *Use a bathroom pass. *Use appropriate amount of supplies. *Report problems to your teacher or an adult. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Knock on stall door before entering. *Give people privacy. *Use quiet voices. *Keep area and walls clean and unmarked. *Use correct bathroom. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Keep feet down. *Keep water in the sink and turn water off when you're done. *Wash and dry hands. *Put your trash in garbage can. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Be patient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wait your turn.
Special Events & Assemblies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Follow school rules. *Take proper care of all personal belongings and school equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Use audience manners. *Sit on bottom. *Be quiet. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wait for arrival and dismissal signal. *Stay with your class. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wait patiently. *Applaud appropriately. *Be appreciative. *Listen with an open mind and have a good attitude. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Be attentive.
Fieldtrips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Arrive and leave on time. *Take proper care of all personal items. *Turn in permission slip and money on time. *Dress appropriately for the event. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Follow adult directions. *Respect the environment that you are in. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Follow all school rules from the start of the trip to the end. *Stay with your assigned adult. *Follow bus rules. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Listen with an open mind and have a good attitude. *Represent VGE with pride. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Use good manners.

Bus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Once you are on the bus stay in your seat until you are dropped off. *Use quiet voices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Follow directions from the bus driver the first time given. *Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Remain seated in your assigned seat at all times. *Keep all parts of your body and objects in the bus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Be patient. *Have a good attitude. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Use appropriate language. *Treat each other with respect.
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Common Area	Responsible	Respectful	Safe/On Time	A+ Attitude	A+ Attitude
Nurse and Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Get permission from an adult to go to the nurse or office. *Go directly to the nurse or office. *Be honest about the reason you are there. *If you are walking with a friend to the nurse or office go straight back to where you came from. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Say "Please" and "Thank You." *Listen. *Follow directions given. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Go only when necessary. *Keep your hands to yourself. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Be patient. *Wait for an adult to help you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Use respectful language. *Give others privacy.
Disaster and Fire Drills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Be silent. *Listen for and follow adult directions immediately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Keep your hands to yourself. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Walk to assigned location. *If you are not with your class tell an adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Take all emergency situations and drills seriously. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Help others be safe.

CAES SCHOOL RULES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR CLASSROOM ROUTINE

School Rule	Responsible	Respectful	Safe/On Time	A+ Attitude	A+ Attitude
Expected Student Behaviors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Follow school rules. *Remind others to follow school rules. *Take proper care of all personal belongings & school equipment. *Tell the truth. *Follow game rules. *Be prepared and ready on time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Wait for your turn. *Clean up after self. *Follow adult directions. *Respond appropriately to others. *Be silent when signal is given. *Be an active listener. *Use correct names and titles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Walk facing forward. *Keep hands, feet & objects to self. *Get adult help for accidents & spills. *Use all equipment & materials appropriately. *Use designated doors. *Get permission to leave the location that you are in. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Work hard and try your best. *Display a positive attitude. *Come to school ready to learn. *Be thankful. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Use appropriate words and actions. *Help others appropriately when needed. *Share appropriately. *Use good manners.

Guideline for Classroom Routines

Starting the day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher greets each child as they enter and children greet each other Put personal belongings in designated areas Turn in homework Put instructional materials in desks Sharpen pencils and gather necessary materials for class Be ready to start class on time
Entering the classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter the room quietly Use a conversational or 'inside voice' Keep hands, feet, objects to self Walk Move directly to desk or designated area Sit quietly and be ready for class

Working independently	Select area to work Have materials ready Work without talking Raise hand to ask for help Keep working or wait patiently for assistance when the teacher is helping someone else Move quietly around the room when necessary Put materials away when finished; clean up after yourself Begin next activity when finished
Asking for help	Always try by yourself first Use the classroom signal for getting assistance Keep working if you can or wait quietly Remember the teacher has other students that may also need help
Taking care of personal needs	Follow the class signal for letting the teacher know you have a private concern Let the teacher know if you need immediate help or if you can wait a while Try to speak to the teacher privately and quietly if you do not want other students involved
Completing & returning homework	Collect your work to take home Complete work, get parent signature when needed Bring work back to school Return work to homework basket

HOMEWORK POLICY

Recent research surrounding the topic of the effectiveness of homework has brought to light many issues facing families today. As the amount of quality time that families have together shrinks, it is the responsibility of the school to provide meaningful homework experiences that are age appropriate. Cooper’s research (1982a) found that there is no clear-cut data that shows homework benefits students in early elementary grades. However beginning in grade four, students who have appropriate homework that enhances and extends learning in the classroom, clearly has benefits. Cooper (2007) suggested that research findings support the common “10 minute” rule which states that all daily homework assignments combined should take about as long to complete as 10 minutes multiplied by the student’s grade level. At Cielo Azul, we strive to provide meaningful homework experiences that extend student learning. We believe that every child should spend time in the evenings reading text at their independent reading level. (Please ask your child’s teacher to help with selection of material for nightly reading). Reading Logs may be provided by your child’s teacher for you to record nightly reading. In the upper grades students will be required to complete homework at least 3 times per week. No homework will be assigned on weekends or holidays. Please support your child by helping them to set aside time for nightly reading and completion of assignments. Organizational skills supported by homework is one of the keys to academic success.

Time guidelines

- **Kindergarten:** A maximum of 15 minutes per night inclusive of nightly reading with

parents, or not to exceed 60 minutes per week.

- **First Grade:** A maximum of 15 minutes per night inclusive of nightly reading, or not to exceed 60 minutes per week.
- **Second Grade:** A maximum of 20 minutes per night inclusive of nightly reading, or not to exceed 80 minutes per week.
- **Third Grade:** A maximum of 35 minutes per night inclusive of nightly reading, or not to exceed 140 minutes per week.
- **Fourth Grade:** A maximum of 40 minutes per night inclusive of nightly reading, or not to exceed 160 minutes per week.
- **Fifth Grade:** A maximum of 45 minutes per night inclusive of nightly reading, or not to exceed 180 minutes per week.

PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

if your child does bring an item to school and loses it, he/she may check in the Lost and Found. The school cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items. Please remind your child to leave personal items/toys at home. They can disrupt the learning environment and create safety problems. Also, there is a risk of items being broken, lost or stolen.

LOST & FOUND

All lost items are to be turned into the Lost and Found which is located by the cafeteria. Students are encouraged to check for all lost items there. Parents are reminded that a child's name needs to be on every personal item brought to school. Please put names in your child's jackets, sweatshirts, sweaters, lunch boxes, etc. so we can get those items to your child. The Lost and Found is cleaned out at winter break, spring break, and at the end of the year. All items that are not claimed will be given to local charities.

INTERNET ACCESS

Cielo Azul Elementary School has access to the Internet. The Internet is a vast source of information for teachers and students.

Before a student is allowed to access the Internet, parents and students will be required to read and electronically sign the Rules of Appropriate Use form once during each school year. This document will be distributed early in the school year. Parents may decline to allow their child access to the Internet. If a student uses the Internet without permission or in an inappropriate manner, any school personnel may invoke the following consequences:

First Incident:	A warning will be given and parents notified.
Second Incident:	Access to the Internet denied to students for the remainder of the year. No Exceptions

FOOD SERVICES

The cafeteria is set up to serve a buffet type lunch. The contractor working with Rio Rancho Public Schools this year is Sodexo. Their phone number is 892-1784.

If your child chooses to eat lunch in our cafeteria, please have your child bring a check to pay on a weekly or monthly basis. Make checks payable to: Rio Rancho Public Schools. This saves time and helps with our bookkeeping procedures. Prices for 2016-17 may vary but as of printing date are:

	Regular	Reduced					
Breakfast	\$2.00	\$0.30		Adult's Breakfast	\$1.25	Breakfast Entrée	\$0.75
Lunch	\$2.20	\$0.40		Adult Lunch	\$3.00	Adult Visitors	\$3.75
Milk	\$0.50			Additional Entrée	\$1.35	Separate Entrée	\$1.74
Juice	\$0.35			Lunch Sides	\$0.50	Water with meal	\$0.50
						Water without meal	\$0.75

In order for your child to become eligible for reduced or free lunch, a form must be filled out and approved by the cafeteria manager. If you think you may qualify for free or reduced lunch/breakfast, please request a form from the front office. All of the information is confidential. The number of children that participate in the free and reduced lunch program help our school qualify for extra federal funding for the Title I Reading Program. If you do not want to participate in the free or reduced breakfast/lunch program and you qualify, it still supports the school's opportunity for additional funding.

Parents are asked to provide healthy snacks when requested by a classroom teacher. This includes any food that will be consumed by students at school celebrations. Please check with your child's teacher for information regarding students in the classroom with food allergies.

SNACK SALES – CLASSROOM CELEBRATIONS

Parents are asked to provide healthy snacks when requested by a classroom teacher. This includes any food that will be consumed by students at school celebrations. Please check with your child's teacher for information regarding students in the classroom with food allergies.

Each grade has been assigned a month throughout the school year where they will be responsible for arranging volunteers to run the snack sales for them. That grade level will receive the proceeds from the snack sales for that month. This money will be used to support classroom events or to buy materials that directly benefit the students in that class. The proceeds benefit our PBIS program.

RAVEN REPORTER NEWSLETTER

The school newsletter, The Raven Reporter, is published and sent via School Fusion every other week. It is very important that you look for this publication and read it. It is our way of keeping you informed of the activities going on in the school and community. Teachers will send home monthly or weekly newsletters as well. This information can also be accessed on our website: <http://cieloazul.rpps.net>

REPORT CARDS, PROGRESS REPORTS, PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Rio Rancho Public Schools report student progress on a trimester basis. Elementary students have scheduled conference times with each teacher during the first and second trimester. Your child's teacher will be looking forward to talking with you about his/her academic success and progress reports. Please plan to attend. If you have questions about the grading scale please contact your child's teacher. If your child has an outstanding library fine, his/her report card will be held until the fine is paid.

VISITORS ON CAMPUS

You are always welcome at Cielo Azul Elementary School. **ALL VISITORS MUST SIGN IN AT THE FRONT OFFICE AND RECEIVE A BADGE SIGNIFYING THAT YOU ARE A CAMPUS VISITOR.**

Anyone seen on campus without this badge will be asked to report to the school administration. This is for the safety of your children. If you are on campus to volunteer in a classroom, please make sure you have scheduled this time with your child's teacher. We ask that parents not request to volunteer in classroom until after the Labor Day Holiday. This enables teachers the time to get classroom routines established. If you wish to observe in your child's classroom, we request 24 hour notice by filling out an observation request form before scheduling a specific date and time.

STUDENT PLACEMENT & CLASS CHANGE POLICY

To minimize classroom interruptions, we are asking that you help us by not disrupting the classrooms during the instructional day. Unless you have been asked to volunteer in your child's classroom, please do not go into the classroom. If you have food or other items that need to get to a classroom, please leave them in the front office and we will ensure that they get delivered to your child's room.

Many hours are spent carefully placing students into classrooms. This is done primarily by teachers with input from the site specialist, the counselor and administration. Finally, teachers are assigned to classes of students by administration. Teachers do not assign students to teachers. Please do not ask teachers to recommend another teacher for the following year. You may discuss any concerns with the principal. The following is a list of the criteria we use:

- Equity in classrooms with regard to gender, ability, special needs, and behavior issues.
- Separating children who have personality conflicts.
- Class programs such as inclusion, learning style, etc.
- Parent concerns sent to the administration in writing in the spring of each year.

The placement process is good but not perfect. In the event that you have concerns about your child's placement, a procedure has been established.

- No student will change classes within the first three weeks of school.
- No changes in class placement will be made until parents and classroom teacher have had a conference a minimum of two times to address the concerns of parent or teacher. The counselor may be invited to assist or mediate.
- Parents and classroom teacher must agree another placement is what is best for the student.
- Request a conference with the principal at this time to determine:
 - If a change should be made.
 - If space is available in another classroom.
 - If the receiving teacher is appropriate for the student.
 - If the Student Assistance Team needs to help with strategies.

COUNSELOR

The counselor in our school helps in many ways. The counselor works closely with parents, teachers, administration, and various other community agencies to provide guidance to our students. Please read the counseling services brochure as an introduction to the counselor's role

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Parent Advisory Council is one of the leadership bodies of the school. The Council consists of an elected/ appointed representative from each of the following groups: parents, community representative, teachers and administrators. Elections will be held at the beginning of school for these council positions. Through this council, activities are planned, decisions are made and various curriculum issues are discussed and implemented.

RRPS WEAPONS POLICY

The Rio Rancho School Board has a weapons policy #347-1 that forbids the possession, custody and use of weapons by unauthorized persons in or around school property. This policy is enacted to implement the requirements of the federal Gun Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. 8921 (a) (1). Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline, including short-term, in or out of school suspension not to exceed ten days, long-term suspension, and expulsion. Therefore, we are asking for help from the entire community as we continue to keep weapons and look-alike weapons out of schools. Our school policy is simple:

NO WEAPONS OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED AT SCHOOL OR AT ANY SCHOOL EVENT.

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A "weapon" is any firearm, any knife, any explosive device, or any other object (even if manufactured for a nonviolent purpose), that has a potentially violent use, or 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.

RRPS SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

It is the position of the Rio Rancho Public Schools that a caring environment is essential for preventing students from becoming involved with harmful substances. Therefore, students in Rio Rancho Public Schools will have the opportunity to develop a positive self-image and achieve their maximum potential in an atmosphere free of substance abuse.

While we recognize that health problems of youth are primarily the responsibility of the home and community, the school shares that responsibility to provide a safe and orderly learning environment. In cooperation with the community, the schools shall endeavor to educate students and staff, concerning substance use and/or abuse as well as support alternatives for helping students and their families, including prevention and intervention strategies.

In accordance with the New Mexico Board of Education Regulation 81-3, the Rio Rancho Public Schools supports a policy which prohibits students from using, possessing or distributing alcohol and/or other harmful and illegal substances on school property, at the bus stop or at school activities.

Students who violate this policy shall be subject to the full range of school and/or district disciplinary measures, in addition to applicable criminal and civil penalties.

HEALTH OFFICE

Our Health Office is staffed by a registered nurse and a health aid. Should your child require attention because of an illness or injury the health office staff will attend to their needs. When you register your child for school, you will be asked to fill out a medical authorization card which includes a section for listing your child's health history and health needs, along with contact phone numbers for home, work, and emergency contact persons. Completing the medical authorization form enables the health office staff to provide the best possible care to your child at school.

Many children are able to attend school outside of the home because of the effectiveness of medications in treating chronic disabilities and many long and short-term illnesses. If possible, all medications should be administered at home. If this is not possible the school nurse needs to know what medications need to be given at school. The school nurse or certified health office staff are allowed to administer medication to students at school. Health Office staff will supervise administration of prescription medication if the parents have provided a doctor's authorization form with the proper instructions on the dispensing of the medication during school hours. -the-counter medications like Tylenol and Benadryl can be given at school without a doctor's authorization if the parents have provided the health office with written authorization. Rio Rancho Public School Policy requires that medications provided by parents for administration at school are new unopened/unused prescription or over-the-counter medications. Medication prescribed by a physician needs to include the pharmacy label.

Student Self-Medication at School

Students are normally not permitted to carry or give medications to themselves while at school. However, under specific conditions a student may carry and self-administer certain prescribed medications. In general, this provision applies only to metered dose inhalers, auto-injectable epinephrine and insulin applied via insulin pump. Students may carry and self-administer medication if the following conditions are met:

1. The student's health care practitioner has prescribed the medication for use by the student during school hours and has instructed the student in the correct and responsible use of the medication;
2. The student has demonstrated the skill level necessary to use the medication and any device that is necessary to administer the medication to the students' health care practitioner and the school nurse or other school official who is a public education department licensed health care provider;
3. The school nurse, in cooperation with the health care practitioner, formulates a written treatment plan for managing the asthma, anaphylaxis episodes or diabetes of the student for medication use by the student during school hours; and
4. The parent/guardian has provided all required documentation to the school nurse including, but not limited to, a signed Authorization to Administer Medication form and the health care practitioners written instructions or treatment plan.

Getting Medications to School

Please do not send any medication to school with your child. Student safety and Rio Rancho Public Schools Policy require that parents, not students, bring both prescription and over-the-counter medications to the health office in person.

Immunizations are required to enter public schools in every state. All students entering Rio Rancho Public Schools must present a certificate/shot record showing immunizations against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio oral vaccination, Measles (Rubeola, Rubella) and Hepatitis B. Students will not be allowed to attend school until a shot record is produced. Check with your pediatrician, the school nurse or the local health department to determine if your child's immunizations are up-to-date.

New Mexico law states that a school district cannot assume liability for costs incurred in students' accidents. The New Mexico Public School Insurance Authority makes a low cost student accident policy available to all students in Rio Rancho Public Schools. This Policy is optional and explained in the brochure sent home at the beginning of each school year. Cielo Azul Elementary has excellent music, physical education, and art programs. We believe related art classes are in important aspect of a well-rounded education and directly support the academic standards held for all students. Students attend related arts classes regularly - as much as the schedule will permit. It is expected that all children will participate in the classes

and performances as part of their grade.

RRPS SCHOOL WEAR POLICY

In the interest of encouraging positive school spirit, disciplined and focused educational environment, and promoting student safety, Rio Rancho Public Schools establishes the following Dress Code and Standard of Decency governing student dress at school and while participating in school-sponsored activities. Administrators shall have the discretion to determine the appropriateness of attire and grooming, and may make special exceptions for students in certain grades/subjects, such as vocational courses, physical education, for medical necessities.

- Enforcement of this policy shall be in accordance with District disciplinary procedures for students.
- Enforcement of this policy shall not infringe on any individual's religious beliefs or protected free speech.

DRESS CODE AND STANDARD OF DECENCY

Students are expected to demonstrate personal grooming standards of cleanliness and to wear appropriate clothing while on campus, on field trips, and during off-campus events at which students represent Rio Rancho Schools for athletics or activities. Any personal grooming or clothing that disrupts the educational process or is provocative in nature is in violation of the Dress Code and Standard of Decency

The Dress Code and Standard of Decency includes but is not limited to the following:

Allowed:

- All colors including, prints, checks, stripes, and plaids, shirts with or without collars

Not Allowed:

- Insignias can be no larger than 3 inches x 3 inches.
- No graphics, pictures, or writing on clothing shall be permitted except as part of an insignia.
- Revealing or see-through clothing.
- Exposed underwear including boxers, sports bras, and bras; saggy pants revealing underwear or any portion of the body below the naval.
- Dresses, skirts, shorts, and skorts, including slits, shorter three (3) inches above the bend of the knee.
- Sleeveless tops: all tops (male and female) are to have a sleeve
- Pajamas (tops or bottoms), unless it is a sanctioned school function, i.e., pajama day.
- Ripped or torn clothing. Bandanas, 'do-rags', shower caps, and hairnets.
- Spiked jewelry and jewelry that is obscene, disruptive to the educational process or that could endanger students.
- Belt loop chains, wallet chains, and extended belts.
- Trench coats.
- Heelys. Flip-flops (elementary school)

- Clothing and/or articles worn or carried by the student (includes face painting) displaying words or symbols or colors of gangs, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, violence, racism, inappropriate language or images, or symbols of a sexual/sexist nature.
- Clothing and/or articles in violation of Policy 346, Gang Activity, which states that students shall not “wear . . . any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other items that evidences or reflects membership in or affiliation with any gang”. Visible cleavage, navels, and/or midriffs.
- No skin should be shown between the bottom of the shirt/blouse and the top of the pants/skirt when arms are stretched upward.
- Tube tops, spaghetti strap tops, halter tops, translucent blouses, midriff shirts/blouses

Other provisions:

- Footwear that is safe and appropriate for weather and other conditions must be worn at all times on campus and in buildings. No flip flops allowed. Sandals must have a backing on the heel
- If a coat or jacket is worn inside a building, it must remain open
- Hair shall be groomed so that it is clean and safe for participation in any school activity
- Hats and sunglasses may not be worn inside buildings, but are allowed outside
- Spandex is only allowed under approved shirts, shorts, skirts, and dresses
- Approved school spirit wear for all RRPS schools, Scout uniforms, and JROTC uniforms are permitted
- Approved special event day dress is permitted
- Mid-School and high school students’ school-issued ID badges must be available or presented at request at all times and may not be defaced in any way

Consequences for Violation of the Student Dress Code/Standard of Decency

First offense: Students who violate the Dress Code will be issued a Dress Code referral and will be required to change into other clothing they may have with them if it conforms to this policy, or change into clothing provided by the school, or be sent home

The time missed from class will be considered “unexcused.” Clothing that is “borrowed” must be returned clean to the main office on the day following the incident.

Second and subsequent offenses:

Students will face disciplinary consequences as defined in the Student Code of Conduct and outlined in the Student Handbook, which may include penalties up to out-of-school suspension.

RELATED ARTS CLASSES

Physical Education - Sneakers/Athletic shoes are expected for PE. Children must have a doctor’s note if they are to be excused from physical education class.

Music - Some performances take place in the evening and your child is expected to participate. If this is impossible, you must contact the Music teacher and obtain alternate assignments to complete the grade.

Art - Students attend Art classes as much as the schedule permits. Please support the art program by providing extra supplies for projects when requested.

Library - Overdue and Damaged Book Policy: When a book is lost or damaged you are asked to pay for the book. The price charged to you is the replacement cost for the book. If a lost book is found within one year in good condition you may return it for a full refund. If a book is damaged but still useable we will bill you for up to 1/2 of the cost of the book. When the damage is minor, we speak to the child who returned it and then clean or repair the book. Every book that is checked in is inspected and cleaned before it goes back on the shelf. Any damage is noted on the inside front cover. New Mexico State Statute Chapter 280 allows for schools to hold a parent responsible for loss, damage or destruction of instructional materials. Report cards will be held until books are returned or the fine is paid.

Computers - Students will attend Computer Class weekly to learn basic computer skills and technology. Each classroom is also furnished with computers for student use.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Items such as radios, MP3 players, iPods, laptop computers, cellular phones, Gameboys, CD players, miniature televisions, watch phones, or any similar electronic devices are not allowed to be used on campus between 8:55 AM and 4:00 PM without written permission of an administrator. The parent can pick up the items in the office after the first offense. Subsequent offenses will result in the item being held until the end of the school year. Cielo Azul Elementary and its staff members will not be responsible for the loss or damage of any personal electronic devices.

INSURANCE

New Mexico law states that a school district cannot assume liability for costs incurred in students' accidents. The New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority makes a low cost student accident policy available to all students in Rio Rancho Public Schools. The policy is optional and explained in the brochure sent home during registration at the beginning of school. If you need additional information during the school year, please contact the front office at 338-2320.

TITLE IX

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

SECTION 504

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 and appropriate public education (FAPE). This provision applies to qualifying disabled students whose disabilities are not so severe as to create IDEA eligibility.

RRPS Section 504 Coordinator is responsible for overseeing compliance with the provisions of Section 504 and for investigating complaints. For further information, contact RRPS 504 Coordinator, at the Rio Rancho Public Schools District Office, 500 Laser Rd. NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 896-0667.

RRPS BOARD POLICY AND STATE DEPT. OF EDUCATIONS

Often Board Policy explains why we do what we do. If you would like more information regarding board policies, please visit the Rio Rancho Public Schools web site at <http://www.rrps.net> . Board Policies can be directly accessed at <http://rrps-school-board.rrps.net>. State Education regulations and laws may be found at <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/>