PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

2021-2022

RIO SCHOOL DISTRICT
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEC</th>
<th>ITEM DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Welcome!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Preschool Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>School Climate and Environment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Closed Campus Policy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>The School Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Leaving the Campus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Returning to School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Visitors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Child Custody</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>School Phones</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Electronic Recording Devices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Tobacco-Free &amp; Drug-Free Campus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>School Policies</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Dress Code</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Personal Property</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Gum and Food</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Student Meals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Lost and Found</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Attendance and Absences</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Tardiness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Withdrawals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Independent Study (BP 6158 and AR 6158)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Emergency Information</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Student Accident Insurance</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Medication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Returning to School after an Injury or Serious Illness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Supervision and Safety</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Yard Supervision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Parking Lot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Back to School Night</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B. Calendars and Newsletters
C. Parent-Teacher Conferences
D. Technology

10 Academics
   A. Homework
   B. Report Cards
   C. Scholastic/Behavioral Eligibility
   D. Student Recognition
   E. Textbooks
   F. Physical Education
   G. Intervention Progress Team (IPT)
   H. Library
   I. Field Trips

11 Code of Conduct - Judicious Discipline
   A. Student Rights
   B. Student Expectations
   C. Sexual Harassment
   D. Bullying
   E. Bus Conduct
   F. Playground Behavior
   G. Unacceptable Behavior
   H. Suspension from School
   I. Bicycles

12 Title I

13 Progressive Discipline Plan

14 McKenny-Vento Education Program

15 School-Parent Compact

16 Teacher-Student-Parent Agreement

17 Parent Involvement Policy

18 Technology Acceptable Use Agreement
1 Introduction

A. Welcome!

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents and staff as a guide to the rules, regulations, and general information about our school. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Parents are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their child in following the rules contained in this handbook.

Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during any school day, or school year. This handbook does not create a “contract.” The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well being of all students. The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will decide based upon all applicable School District policies, State and Federal statutes and regulations, and the Parents Rights and Responsibilities Annual Notice.

B. Preschool Program

The Rio School District offers an academic preschool program at most of its elementary schools. The district is partners with the Ventura County Office of Education, the Rio Neighborhoods for Learning, Child Development Resources and Child Development Inc. to provide this program for children ages 3-5 who meet eligibility criteria.

C. School Climate and Environment

The Rio School District believes that all students should be provided a foundation where every student feels valued and valuable, safe and respected, and socially and emotionally happy and healthy. RSD accomplishes this in the adoption of the “40 Developmental Assets” which acts as the framework for a positive school environment that the entire community can participate in. A discipline philosophy is also included to encourage consistent and clear expectations of students. “Judicious Discipline” is a philosophy for classroom management and school discipline. It is a citizen approach that teaches students about their rights and responsibilities for living and learning in a democratic society. School sites, teachers and staff are encouraged to utilize a Positive Behavior Support approach working with students in a variety of situations. This approach helps to encourage adults working with students to find alternative solutions to student issues. All of which is practiced through character education curriculums that teach RSD students tolerance and problem-solving skills.

2 Closed Campus Policy

Our school is a closed campus. Students are expected to remain on campus from the time they arrive in the morning until they are dismissed in the afternoon. Parents, guardians, or siblings (who do not
attend Rio del Mar) may walk a student onto campus prior to the start of school but must leave campus at the first warning bell. Students and parents are expected to gather on the playground or in the cafeteria (if the student is eating breakfast) before school and are not allowed in the classroom areas.

A. The School Day

Students are permitted on campus beginning at 7:45 a.m. and are to leave promptly after school unless participating in a school sponsored activity.

B. Leaving the Campus

Students who need to leave the campus for any reason prior to the end of the school day must be signed out through the office by a parent, guardian, or emergency contact person (who must be 18 years of age or older) with the parent/guardian permission.

Kindergarten, first, and second grade students must be picked up from their teachers at the end of the school day by an adult or older sibling designated on the student’s emergency card. First and second grade students will only be released to an authorized adult or older sibling (18 years or older) as designated on the student’s emergency card. Students in grade 3-5 are released from the classroom to meet up with authorized adults or younger siblings or walk home independently.

NOTE: A student will NOT be released to any person who is not authorized as indicated on the student’s emergency card. Names on the emergency card may ONLY be added or deleted in person by the parent or guardian at the school office with proof of ID.

Students must be picked up within 10 minutes of the end of the school day. Students who are not picked up on time will be taken to the office and must be checked out from there. Students who remain at the school for more than 2 hours after the end of the day, or that are chronically picked up late, may be turned over to the Ventura County Sheriff’s Department or Child Protective Services, for their safety and returned to the appropriate authorized parent, guardian, or another adult as indicated on the student’s emergency card.

C. Returning to School

Students returning to the school must check into the office to get a pass to return to class.

D. Visitors

The Rio School District encourages visits to the schools and programs operated by the Rio School District by parents/guardians, members of the community, and other interested persons to view the educational program and facilities and to offer constructive comments.
Classroom visits by members of the community and other interested persons should be arranged in advance with the teacher, principal, or principal designee in charge. Approval or denial is based upon whether there is a reasonable basis to conclude that the visit will interfere with school activities. Visitors may be accompanied by the principal or principal designee at all times while they are on campus when students are present. In all cases, responsible adult behavior shall be required of all visitors. Visitors who pose a threat to the health and safety of students, teachers, or other personnel or who otherwise disrupt the normal operations of the school shall be removed.

Parents must adhere to a code of conduct while on school property. Education code states the following: No disruptions of school activities or verbal/physical assaults will be tolerated by visitors on campus. (E.C. 44810 and 44811).

Visitors must have permission from the office to be on campus. Visitors must be 18 years or older and be an authorized adult as determined by the school site administration and sign “in” and “out” at the office. A visitor's badge will be provided to wear while on campus and must always be visible. Students’ friends or relatives may not attend classes with the student without prior approval from the office.

Administration has the authority to direct non-students to leave campus. No outsider shall enter or remain on school grounds during school hours without having registered with the school office, principal or designee, except to proceed expeditiously to the school office to register.

Parents/Guardians who have a complaint regarding a situation with their child or situation on campus are requested to schedule an appointment directly with the individual involved to work to a resolution regarding the situation. If after meeting with the individual, and no resolution is reached, the parent is encouraged to schedule an appointment with the Principal.

E. Child Custody

In most cases, when parents are divorced, both parents retain parental rights. If you have a Court Order that limits the rights of one parent in matters such as custody or visitation, please bring a copy to the office. Unless your Court Order is on file with us, we must provide the rights that the law allows to parents concerning records, visitation and information about the child.

F. School Phones

School phones are extremely busy and we only allow students to call home in case of an emergency. Whenever possible, avoid leaving phone messages for your children at school. It is difficult to ensure that they will receive the message. Parents and children are encouraged to make pick-up and after-school arrangements at home.

G. Electronic Recording Devices
Electronic listening or recording devices may not be used by students or visitors on school property without express consent by the principal.

H. Tobacco-free and Drug-free Campus

All Rio School District schools and property are Tobacco free zones. Therefore, the use of tobacco including chewing tobacco, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, hookahs and any other vapor emitting devices is prohibited on school grounds, including personal vehicles parked on school property.

We are a drug-free campus. Students who are required to take physician prescribed medications during the regular school day may be assisted by the school nurse or other designated school personnel if the procedures listed in Section 7A are followed.

3 School Policies

A. Dress Code

The Board of Trustees believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Student’s clothing must not present a health or safety hazard or a distraction which would interfere with the educational process (BP5132(a)).

- Clothing, jewelry and personal items (backpacks, gym bags, water bottles, etc.) shall be free of writing, pictures or any other insignia which are crude, vulgar, profane or sexually suggestive, which bear drug, alcohol or tobacco company advertising, promotions and likenesses, or which advocate racial, ethnic or religious prejudice.

- Hats, caps and other head coverings shall not be worn indoors. Each school shall allow students to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day (Education Code 35183.5).

- Clothes shall always be sufficient to conceal undergarments. See-through or fishnet fabrics, halter tops, off-the-shoulder or low-cut tops, bare midriffs and skirts or shorts shorter than mid-thigh are prohibited.

- Shoes must always be worn. Sandals must have heel straps. Flip-flops, backless shoes or sandals without straps, or slippers are not acceptable (For safety reasons, shoes with embedded wheels (Heelys) may only be worn with the wheels removed).

The school site may establish reasonable dress and grooming regulations for times when students are engaged in extracurricular or other special school activities. Parents volunteering for or attending extracurricular activities must follow the school dress code or forgo volunteering or attending.

B. Personal Property
Children are not to bring toys, games, electronic devices, or other personal items to school without teacher permission. Upon arrival to school and through dismissal, cell phones should be turned off and not used for text messaging, taking pictures or direct-connect two-way communication unless the use is directed or expressly permitted by a school official. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen or broken personal items. Please label outerwear and backpacks with student’s name.

C. Gum and Food

Gum is not allowed on campus. Food is allowed in designated areas only. Food brought from the outside for classroom celebrations must be “store bought” in the original sealed package from the store or manufacturer. Any package which has been opened for any reason is not allowed for health safety reasons.

D. Student Meals

Student meals are provided at a reasonable cost and may be paid for in advance through our office or online through our district portal. Usernames and password for the user portal may be obtained from our front office staff.

E. Lost and Found

We keep a Lost and Found box during the year. If your child loses something, he/she is free to look for it there. Unclaimed items will be disposed monthly.

4 Attendance and Absences

Regular attendance plays a key role in the success a student achieves in school. The first step to success in school is getting there. It is an obligation of student, parent and school authorities to insist upon good attendance. Excused absences include:

a. Illness
b. Doctor/Dental appointments
c. Death in the immediate family
d. Quarantine

A written note from the parent on the day the child returns is necessary, unless a phone call to the school is made by the parent explaining the reason for absence. Excessive absences may result in referral to the School Attendance Review Board.

A. Tardiness

If a child arrives late to school, he/she must stop by the Office for a pass to class. If a student leaves early they must be checked out of school at the office by an authorized adult with parent permission. Arriving late or leaving early is recorded as a tardy for attendance purposes. Please remember,
tardiness results in loss of instruction time. More than 3 tardies per year are considered excessive. Excessive tardiness may result in the referral to the School Attendance Review Board.

B. Withdraw from Attendance

The school should be notified by the parent in advance of a student withdrawing from attendance. Parents need to indicate where they are moving and the address of the new school, if possible. Your child’s records and report card will be sent to the new school upon request from the new school’s office. Please return all books and school materials prior to moving.

C. Independent Study (BP 6158 and AR 6158)

Planning family vacations during the school year is discouraged. If a student is to be absent for five or more days for reasons other than illness or emergencies, arrangements should be made with the office for an Independent Study Contract five days prior to the scheduled leave. Parents/guardians who are interested in independent study should contact the principal or designee prior to the scheduled leave to verify eligibility. Independent Study Contracts are void if the student does not return to school on the scheduled date. This will result in unexcused absences for the duration of the Independent Study Contract period. Upon return to school, student work should be turned in immediately to receive credit. It is the student’s responsibility to check-in with teachers upon return to school for any additional work missed.

5 Emergency Information

Emergency cards are kept on file for all students with important information in cases of student illness, accident or other emergency. Please return the emergency card to the office as soon as possible. New emergency cards must be completed each school year and signed by the parent/guardian. If student information should change throughout the year, it is the parent’s responsibility to inform the office. You must have contact phone numbers on the back of the emergency card. These should not be the same as the home number on the front of the card. NOTE: Only those persons designated on the emergency card may sign out students. Verbal authorization by a parent for an individual who is not listed on the emergency card to pick up a student is not permitted and will not be allowed. Changes to emergency cards must be made in person. It is wise to add as many trusted individuals as possible as additional contacts on your emergency card to provide you with options in the case of an emergency.

6 Student Accident Insurance

Accident insurance is available to students at a reasonable price. Specific information regarding the plan will be supplied during registration and the first week of school. Parents are encouraged to purchase this insurance as the school accepts no financial responsibility for accidents occurring on school grounds.

7 Health
When your child is ill the evening before or the day of school, please keep your child home. Children who run a fever, vomit, experience diarrhea, coughing, sore throat or other cold/flu related symptoms are not ready for a rigorous day of school. They need at least 24 hours of rest once symptoms subside before returning to school. If you would like to pick up your child’s homework, please notify the school office in the morning.

A. Medication

It is desirable for medication to be administered at home. However, we recognize that some students can attend school regularly because of the effective use of medication in the treatment of chronic disabilities or illness. It is also recognized that in many short-term illnesses, medication may need to be continued after a student returns to school. To accommodate this, we need:
1. All medicine or drugs in its original container.
2. A written physician’s order and parental consent form: “Authorization for Any Medication Taken during School Hours” District Form, which includes the medication name, reason for medication, dosage, schedule, anticipated number of days to be administered, and side effects of the medication.
3. Students may not carry any medication with them on campus including over-the-counter medication or asthma pumps.

B. Returning to School after an Injury or Serious Illness

When a child is injured on or off campus and returns to school with a cast, crutches, splints, etc., he/she needs a doctor’s clearance. This clearance should include any physical limitations or special instructions (e.g. No PE for a week). Without a written medical clearance, the child will be excluded from school. This is done for the protection of your child as well as for the safety of others.

8 Supervision and Safety

A. Yard Supervision

We provide daily yard duty supervision beginning at 7:45 a.m. Teachers and Campus Supervision Assistants supervise students during morning and afternoon recesses and at lunch. There is no yard supervision after school. Parents need to pick up their children promptly at the end of their school day.

B. Parking Lot

Parking is very limited. Please remember to drop off and pick up students in the safest manner possible. Drive cautiously and watch for students at all times. The handicap area is for those who have handicap parking permits ONLY. Remember do not block parked cars. Adhere to the designated no parking red zones, speed limits and crosswalks. Please pull to the curb in the drop off zone before having your children exit your vehicle. This will prevent students from crossing traffic and assure a safe exit from the vehicle.
9 Communication

A. Back to School Night

All parents are encouraged to attend the annual Back-To-School Night. Teachers will provide valuable information regarding academic expectations for the school year. Back to School Night is a minimum day.

B. Calendars and Newsletters

Monthly calendars/newsletters are sent home at the beginning of each month. Food service menus are available through our website. Please post these at home for reference.

C. Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conference dates are listed on your Yearly School Calendar. Your child’s teacher will schedule a time for you. Our goal is to work together with you to provide the best education possible for your child. We hope to see you at conferences, as well as at other school activities this year.

D. Technology

The Rio del Mar website hosts pages of information regarding events and activities happening at school. Additionally, we host a Twitter page and other informational sites with links found on the website. The marquee at the front of the school also displays upcoming events. In order to get important information to you quickly, we will use an automated phone calling system. Please make sure to keep your telephone number up to date to receive information.

10 Academics

A. Homework

The Rio Elementary School District Board Policy BP6154 states that the Board:

- Recognizes that homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline, and lifelong learning habits.
- Recognizes that the time spent on homework directly influences student’s ability to meet the District academic standards.
- Expects students, parents/guardians, and staff to view homework as a routine and an important part of students’ daily lives.

Recommended Amount of Time:

Homework assignments will vary in length and difficulty per the individual student. In addition to doing homework assignments, all students are expected to read nightly for a minimum of:

- Kindergarten – 1st Grade: 20 minutes
- 2nd – 3rd Grade: 30 minutes
- 4th – 8th Grade: 40 minutes

Nature and Purpose of Homework:

- Promotes independence and responsibility.
• Provides additional practice/reinforcement of fundamentals.
• Allows for completion of unfinished class work or assignments missed during absences.
• Supports and encourages consistent daily reading.
• May include research/projects in assigned subject areas for which there is insufficient time in class.
• Keeps parents informed of current learning in class.

Principal’s Responsibility:
• Principal will send these Homework Guidelines home to all parents in time for parents to read them prior to attending Back to School Night.

Teacher’s Responsibilities:
• Teacher will communicate homework procedures and expectations to all parents at the beginning of school each year (i.e., Back to School Night, introductory letter).
• Teacher will clarify at the beginning of the school year whether parents are to review and/or assist in correcting homework before it is turned in.
• Teacher generally will assign homework four days a week. These assignments should not require that the homework be completed over weekends or holidays.
• Teacher will assign homework that is commensurate with student’s abilities so that the homework assignments are neither too challenging nor not challenging enough and can be completed independently.
• Homework copies will be legible, and directions will be clear and understandable to student and/or parent.
• Homework will be meaningful and relevant to class work.
• Teacher will help parents understand the objectives of the school curriculum at Back to School Night and parent conferences and through student progress reports.
• Homework will be checked or corrected and returned to student in class or sent home. Teacher will review with student homework corrections/comments, if necessary.
• Teacher will notify parents when student repeatedly fails to turn in homework on time.
• Teacher will guide students and parents to available homework support services, as needed.

Student’s Responsibilities:
• Student is expected to complete assigned homework independently and on time.
• Student is expected to turn in neat and legible homework.
• Student will ask teacher for clarification if homework assignment is not clear.
• Student is encouraged to talk with teacher if homework assignments are too difficult or too easy.
• Student is expected to show parents any checked or corrected homework returned by the teacher.

Parents’ Responsibilities:
• Parents are expected to provide a regular study and/or reading time in a suitable setting with appropriate materials.
• Parents are encouraged to offer guidance but avoid doing the assignment for the child.
• Parents are encouraged to provide a balance between homework and the child’s free time. If a child consistently does not complete assignments within the recommended time frame (homework is too challenging/not challenging enough), parents should contact the teacher.
• Parents are expected to understand the objectives of the school curriculum and the relationship of the homework to these objectives.
• Parents are expected to ask the child to show/discuss checked or corrected homework.

If parents have questions or concerns at any time, they are encouraged to contact their child’s teacher.

B. Report Cards

Report cards will be mailed home in November, March, and June. Please refer to your Rio School District Calendar for the exact days. The November report card will be discussed with you at fall parent conferences.

C. Attendance Recognition

Our school is proud to recognize students during the school year for their academic success and improvement. Regular, on-time attendance is crucial to ensure that students continually progress toward mastery of grade level expectations. Those students who have perfect attendance (arriving on time every day and completing the entire day) will be recognized.

D. Textbooks

Students are issued textbooks at the beginning of the school year. They will be responsible for any lost or damaged textbooks. Failure to pay for replacement of these materials may result in a delay in the release of school records and may affect their participation in promotion ceremonies or other school activities.

E. Physical Education

All students are required to participate in physical education activities. If a student is unable to participate due to illness or an injury, they must bring a written excuse from a parent or legal guardian and present it to their teacher. Excusal from PE may also result in restriction during recess activities based upon the reason for excusal. If your child is to be excused from PE for more than three days, a note from a doctor is required.

F. Response to Intervention and the Intervention Progress Team (IPT)

The Rio School District’s leadership believes that a child’s ability to learn is affected by social, emotional, behavioral, health and economic factors outside the classroom. The District’s Response to Intervention (RtI) Model provides a framework making it possible for students to access a range of programs and obtain services that will support the individual needs of the child and his/her family. Both academic and Social/Emotional/Behavioral interventions are made available through site Intervention Progress Teams (IPT). The RtI process acts as a framework and organizing tool so that all district services and interventions will be accessible at the appropriate levels of interventions. The team is a regular education process that uses a positive problem-solving team approach to do everything possible to make students’ school life successful. Parents of referred students are an important part of this process. The student’s progress is monitored frequently to see if those
interventions are sufficient to help the student to catch up with his or her peers. If the student fails to show significantly improved skills despite several well-designed and implemented interventions, this failure to 'respond to intervention' can be viewed as evidence of underlying problems that may lead to an assessment for possible special education services.

G. Library

Our school provides library services for students. Students visit the library on a regular basis, during which times they can check out library books to read at home and at school. We understand that books may get lost from time to time, but this will not preclude your child from checking out library books. When a book is lost, we encourage your child to search for the book at home and will notify you of the lost book. Most times, books are recovered, but if a book cannot be recovered, we ask for your support to replace the missing book. Our goal is to maintain a diverse and relevant selection of reading materials and working together we can accomplish that goal. Our library is open to parents and students before and after school. We encourage you to come and read with or to your child or help them choose a selection of books to check out.

H. Field Trips

Field trips are part of the student’s learning experience and are part of the school curriculum. They are planned and supervised by the classroom teacher. A permission slip must be signed by the parent prior to the trip. *No child may attend any trip for which his or her permission slip has not been returned.* Field trips are an extension of the school program and all school rules apply, including the dress code policy.

11 Code of Conduct

Our school adheres to the principles of *Positive Behavior Support* which include:

- Health and safety
- Legitimate Educational Purpose
- Property Loss and Damage
- Serious Disruption

Students are taught the importance of balancing their rights and responsibilities as citizens of our school community.

A. Student Rights

All students can learn, and they have the right to:

- Be safe and protected
- Be free from verbal abuse and harm
- Have personal belongings safe
- Be treated with respect
- Learn in a caring environment
- Learn without distraction

B. Student Responsibilities
Students are expected to display appropriate behaviors while in class, on the school grounds, while going to and from school, and during school-sponsored activities:

- Show respect for yourself and others.
- Be in assigned seat, ready to work and with all materials, when the bell rings.
- Follow directions the first time they are given.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- Use a pleasant voice when talking to others.

C. Sexual Harassment

Rio School District prohibits student sexual harassment. Student sexual harassment includes student-to-student, adult-to-student, or adult-to-adult harassment. Sexual harassment is any unwelcome sexual behavior from another person and can include sexual comments, jokes, rumors, graffiti, or touching or staring in a sexual way. Students who sexually harass other students at school, at a school related activity or while going to, or coming from school, will be disciplined. Appropriate student discipline for sexual harassment may include suspension and/or expulsion. Students who believe that they have been sexually harassed either by an adult or by another student should immediately tell the school principal, a teacher, or a school counselor so that the District can take action to stop the harassment and protect the student.

EDUCATION CODE SECTION 231.5.

(a) It is the policy of the State of California, pursuant to Section 200, that all persons, regardless of their sex, should enjoy freedom from discrimination of any kind in the educational institutions of the state. The purpose of this section is to provide notification of the prohibition against sexual harassment as a form of sexual discrimination and to provide notification of available remedies.

(b) Each educational institution in the State of California shall have a written policy on sexual harassment. It is the intent of the Legislature that each educational institution in this state include this policy in its regular policy statement rather than distribute an additional written document.

(c) The educational institution's written policy on sexual harassment shall include information on where to obtain the specific rules and procedures for reporting charges of sexual harassment and for pursuing available remedies.

(d) A copy of the educational institution's written policy on sexual harassment shall be displayed in a prominent location in the main administrative building or other area of the campus or schoolsite. "Prominent location" means that location, or those locations, in the main administrative building or other area where notices regarding the institution's rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct are posted.

(e) A copy of the educational institution's written policy on sexual harassment, as it pertains to students, shall be provided as part of any orientation program conducted for new students at the beginning of each quarter, semester, or summer session, as applicable.

(f) A copy of the educational institution's written policy on sexual harassment shall be provided for each faculty member, all members of the administrative staff, and all members of the support staff at
the beginning of the first quarter or semester of the school year, or at the time that there is a new employee hired.

(g) A copy of the educational institution's written policy on sexual harassment shall appear in any publication of the institution that sets forth the comprehensive rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct for the institution.

D. Bullying

The Rio School District is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, violence, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics set forth in section 422.55 of the Penal Code and E.C.220 and disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

Bullying is defined as unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose. Both students who are bullied and students who bully others may have serious, lasting problems.

What students and parents can do:

What students can do:
- Be a friend to others: introduce yourself to new student, invite other students to play or hang out with you, work with an adult to solve disagreements.
- Talk to an adult.
- Be a supportive bystander; Speak to an adult if you see another student being bullied.

What parents can do:
- Volunteer in the school.
- Participate in the School Safety Committee, School Site Counsel, Parent English Language Committee, or other school wide committees.
- Notify your child’s teacher, school counselor, or Principal if your child reports bullying to you or you suspect something is wrong.

E. Bus Conduct

BP 5131.1: In order to help ensure the safety and well-being of students, bus drivers, and others, it is expected that students will always exhibit appropriate and orderly conduct when using school transportation, including while preparing to ride, riding, or leaving the bus. The Superintendent or designee may deny a student the privilege of using school transportation upon the student's continued disorderly conduct or his/her persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver.

F. Playground Behavior

Students shall:
1. Follow directions and playground rules
2. Stay in assigned areas
3. Keep hands, feet and objects to themselves
4. Treat others with the respect (no teasing, insulting, provoking)
5. Use equipment appropriately
6. Follow school procedures as set by the administration and teachers

Consequences for Misbehavior:
School site staff will follow the district discipline matrix for inappropriate behavior. Inappropriate incidents are reported to the Principal or his/her designee who completes the following:
1. Holds a conference with the child/children to provide due process.
2. Contacts child’s teacher and/or parents/guardian to report the incident.
3. Determines an outcome which is appropriate to the incident and which helps the child correct his/her own future actions.

The goal of this process is to assist students in understanding the relationship between rights (free play time on the playground) and responsibilities (maintaining appropriate behavior). Ongoing referrals may be addressed through an Intervention Progress Team (IPT) meeting including playground personnel, parent, teacher, and principal.

H. Unacceptable Behavior and Suspensions

The Following behavior is UNACCEPTABLE and will result in consistently applied discipline (according to Education Code 48900, 48260, 31583):
School sites will follow the Rio School District’s Progressive Discipline Matrix for unacceptable behaviors.
• Threatening, bullying, fighting, assault and battery.
• Extortion (taking or attempting to take money or property from another person by use of a threat).
• Truancy: excessive absences and/or tardiness.
• Causing or attempting to cause damage to school or private property.
• Disturbing class or student activities.
• Use of profanity, vulgarity, or obscenity.
• Disobedience, defiance, or disrespect to school employees.
• Inappropriate mode of dress.
• Possession of personal radios, tapes, CD Players.
• Electronic devices: Students are permitted to carry a cell phone; however, all cell phones must remain turned off and in student backpacks when at school. If a student is caught with the cell phone in hand during school hours, the phone will be confiscated, and a parent will need to come to the office to retrieve it.
• Severe disruptive behavior is not tolerated in the Rio School District. Students may be suspended from school and a conference will be held with their parents. As an alternative to suspension, a parent may be required to spend a day at school with his/her child.

I. Bicycles, Skateboards and Scooters

Children riding bicycles to school must park and lock them in the designated area immediately upon arrival at school. Bikes must be walked on school property and on sidewalks. Bikes, skateboards, and
scooters are not to be ridden on campus at any time. Bicycle, scooter, or skateboard riders under age 18 must wear a properly fitted and fastened helmet which meets specified safety standards when they ride on a street, bikeway, or public bicycle path or trail. Vehicle Code Section 21212 states that:

(a) A person under 18 years of age shall not operate a bicycle, a nonmotorized scooter, or a skateboard, nor shall they wear in-line or roller skates, nor ride upon a bicycle, a nonmotorized scooter, or a skateboard as a passenger, upon a street, bikeway, as defined in Section 890.4 of the Streets and Highways Code, or any other public bicycle path or trail unless that person is wearing a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet that meets the standards of either the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) or the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), or standards subsequently established by those entities. This requirement also applies to a person who rides upon a bicycle while in a restraining seat that is attached to the bicycle or in a trailer towed by the bicycle.

12 Title I

Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged

The purpose of this title is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging State academic achievement standards and state academic assessments. This purpose can be accomplished by —

(1) ensuring that high-quality academic assessments, accountability systems, teacher preparation and training, curriculum, and instructional materials are aligned with challenging State academic standards so that students, teachers, parents, and administrators can measure progress against common expectations for student academic achievement;
(2) meeting the educational needs of low-achieving children in our Nation’s highest-poverty schools, limited English proficient children, migratory children, children with disabilities, Indian children, neglected or delinquent children, and young children in need of reading assistance;
(3) closing the achievement gap between high- and low-performing children, especially the achievement gaps between minority and nonminority students, and between disadvantaged children and their more advantaged peers;
(4) holding schools, local educational agencies, and States accountable for improving the academic achievement of all students, and identifying and turning around low-performing schools that have failed to provide a high-quality education to their students, while providing alternatives to students in such schools to enable the students to receive a high-quality education;
(5) distributing and targeting resources sufficiently to make a difference to local educational agencies and schools where needs are greatest;
(6) improving and strengthening accountability, teaching, and learning by using State assessment systems designed to ensure that students are meeting challenging State academic achievement and content standards and increasing achievement overall, but especially for the disadvantaged;
(7) providing greater decisionmaking authority and flexibility to schools and teachers in exchange for greater responsibility for student performance;
(8) providing children an enriched and accelerated educational program, including the use of schoolwide programs or additional services that increase the amount and quality of instructional time;
(9) promoting schoolwide reform and ensuring the access of children to effective, scientifically based instructional strategies and challenging academic content;
(10) significantly elevating the quality of instruction by providing staff in participating schools with substantial opportunities for professional development;
(11) coordinating services under all parts of this title with each other, with other educational services, and, to the extent feasible, with other agencies providing services to youth, children, and families; and (12) affording parents substantial and meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.

13 Progressive Discipline Plan

The Rio School District recognizes that to maximize the learning potential of each student the school environment must be safe, secure and peaceful. The following guidelines, in accordance with Education Code and Board Policy, are enforced district wide in a fair and consistent manner.

The Progressive Discipline Plan was developed for all schools within the Rio School District and outlines the Alternative Means of Correction that school sites may use, as well as consequences that may be issued for inappropriate student behaviors. Each administrator must consider the age, intent, and prior offenses of the student in determining the appropriate consequences. Situations not specifically addressed in this plan or unusual or extreme cases will be dealt with in accordance with District Policy and the California Education Code. If action warrants, students may be given consequences of second and third offense on the first offense.

**Alternative Means of Correction (AMC) may include, but are not limited to (no particular order):**

- Parent/Teacher Conference
- Parent Contact
- Warning (Verbal/Written)
- Citation may be Issued by School Resource Officer
- Positive behavior support/character building program Lesson/Reflection
- Exclusion from School Activities
- Behavior Contract
- Conflict Mediation
- Community Referral/Services
- Parent accompany child in class
- Parent Escort Student to/from School
- No Contact Contract
- Alternate Seating
- Loss of Recess
- Class Meeting
- Intervention Progress Team (IPT)
- School Attendance Review Board
- Cross Age Mentoring
- Projects on Campus
- Community Service
- Counseling
- Restitution
- Time Out in Buddy Class
- Detention
Home/School communication is critical to our student’s success. ALL interventions shall include a parent contact and/or conference. We want our families to be partners in education at all times.

In accordance with Education Code 48911, all home suspensions shall be preceded by an informal conference conducted by the principal or the principal’s designee, the pupil, and whenever practicable, the teacher or supervisor or school employee who referred the pupil to the principal. At this conference, the pupil shall be informed of the reason for the disciplinary action and the evidence against him or her and shall be given the opportunity to present his or her version and evidence in his or her defense. At the time of the suspension, a school employee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the pupil’s parent or guardian in person or by telephone, and the parent or guardian shall be notified in writing of the suspension within 24 hours. If the parent/guardian cannot be reached, the student’s emergency contact number will be called. If the student is released to someone other than the parent/guardian, the school will make arrangements to meet to discuss the situation with the parent/guardian.

All unauthorized items brought to school and confiscated by staff may be returned to the student at the end of the school day on the first offense. Upon the second offense, parents may recover confiscated items, not held in evidence, upon administrative approval. Items not recovered by the end of the school year may be discarded. The Rio School District, or any individual, is not liable for damage or loss to these confiscated items. The primary objective of requiring students not to bring restricted materials to school is to ensure students’ focus on educational tasks, students’ safety, and to prevent the loss or damage of private property.

You may obtain a complete copy of the Rio School District Progressive Discipline Plan, Grades TK – 5, by visiting our school office and requesting a copy or by visiting our school website at www.rioschools.org/riodelmar/.

14 McKinney-Vento Education Program

Title X, Part C, of the No Child Left Behind Act, McKinney-Vento Assistance Act requires Local Education Agencies (also known as school districts) to:
1. Ensure that homeless children and youth have equal access to the same free and appropriate public education, including public preschool education, as provided to other children and youth;
2. Remove barriers to enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless students;
3. Immediately enroll homeless students in school, even if they lack the required documentation for enrollment;
4. McKinney-Vento participants have access to educational and other services necessary for them to meet the same challenging performance standards as the general population of students;
5. Not be stigmatized or segregated based on their status as homeless.

Federal Educational Definition of Homeless

According to the McKinney Vento Assistance Act, a homeless student is a person between the ages of two and eighteen who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night time residence who is:
1. Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
2. Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
3. Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
4. Abandoned in hospitals;
5. Awaiting foster care placement;
6. Staying in a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for regular sleeping accommodations for human beings;
7. Living in a car, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings;
8. Migratory children who qualify as homeless because the children are living in conditions described in above;
9. “Unaccompanied”, not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

Educational Rights of the Homeless

Students who find themselves in any of these living situations are deemed homeless by the federal definition and are entitled to the following rights:
1. School placement must be made regardless of whether the child or youth resides with the homeless parent or has been living in a temporary residence
2. Homeless students have the right to attend the school of origin, or the school in the attendance area in which they are temporarily residing.
3. Homeless students shall, to the extent feasible, be placed in their school of origin, unless it is against the wishes of their parent/guardian, then the students will attend the school in the area where they are temporarily residing. School placement for homeless students is based on the student’s best interest as defined in law.
4. Homeless students have the right to attend the school of origin for the duration of their homelessness. If the student becomes permanently housed during the academic year, he or she is entitled to stay in the school of origin for the remainder of the academic year.
5. Students who become homeless in between academic years are entitled to attend the school of origin for the following academic year.
6. School districts are required to adopt policies and practices to ensure that transportation is provided to or from the school of origin, at the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the liaison).
7. If a homeless student continues to live within the boundaries of the school district of the school of origin, the school district must provide or arrange transportation for the students to and from the school of origin.
8. If a homeless student continues to attend the school of origin but is living within the boundaries of another school district, the school district of origin and the school district where the homeless student is living must agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the students with transportation to and from the school of origin.
9. If the school districts cannot agree upon a method, the responsibility and cost for transportation are to be shared equally.
10. In the case of an unaccompanied youth, the school district’s homeless liaison shall assist in placement or enrollment decisions, consider the views of the student, and provide notice to the students of his/her right to appeal rights.

11. If the student is placed at a school other than school of origin or a school requested by the parent/guardian, the school shall provide a written explanation of its decision, including their right to appeal the decision.

Responsibility of the School

Per the MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT, schools must:

1. Identify students who meet the federal definition of homelessness.
2. Enroll immediately, even if records normally needed for enrollment are lacking, such as proof of residency, school records, immunizations, etc.
3. Contact the last school of attendance to obtain relevant records.
4. Do not immediately drop students from the school due to change of address.
5. Investigate a student’s change of address and if it is due to loss of housing, the student must be allowed to attend for the duration of homelessness.
6. When homeless students become permanently housed, allow them to complete the school year.
7. The school district shall provide transportation to the school of origin and share the cost of transportation if the student is displaced to a neighboring school district.
8. If a dispute arises, allow the homeless student to immediately enroll/continue attending in the school, pending resolution of the dispute. Explanations and the right to appeal MUST be provided IN WRITING, to parents/guardians.
9. School districts must have a dispute policy in place.

Responsibility of the Parent/Guardian

1. Enroll your children in school immediately.
2. Sign your children up for food program (you automatically qualify).
3. Make sure your children attend school everyday.
4. Ask about support services like tutoring, counseling, after school programs, etc.
5. Meet with your child’s teacher regularly.
6. Give your input on what you think is best for your child.
7. Notify the school when moving.
8. When leaving a school, get current school records (i.e. immunizations, grades, IEPs)
9. Contact the new district’s homeless liaison for help in enrolling in the new school.

15 School-Parent Compact

The compact below, which has been jointly developed with parents, outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the schools and families will partner to help children achieve the State’s high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents of Title I students.

- The school’s responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction
• The ways parents will be responsible for supporting their children’s learning
• The importance of ongoing communication between parents and teachers through, at a minimum, annual parent-teacher conferences; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities to observe classroom activities

Rio del Mar will gather and disseminate to parents for review the following materials: District wide Parental Involvement Policy, the School’s Parental Involvement Policy, the school-parent compact, and Parent Notices from the Appendix B: Key Title I, Part A Parental notice Requirements table in the Title I, Part A Non-Regulatory Guidance. These materials will be disseminated to parents at regular Title I parent meetings (Coffee with the Principal), School Site Council meetings, or parent/teacher conferences. Written and oral input from parents will be solicited through Title I parent meetings, School Site Council meetings, parent/teacher conferences, school newsletters, school website, and other regular written communications with parents.

Building Capacity for Involvement

Rio del Mar engages Title I parents in meaningful interactions with the school. It supports a partnership among staff, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, the school has established the following practices.

• The school provides Title I parents with assistance in understanding the State’s academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their children.

Rio del Mar holds regular Title I meetings (Coffee with the Principal) to address parent concerns related to student achievement and the academic content standards. Meetings are held once per month and are advertised through the school calendar, website, marquee and phone system.

• The school provides title I parents with materials and training to help them work with their children to improve their children’s achievement.

Rio del Mar holds regular Title I meetings (Coffee with the Principal) to address parent concerns related to student achievement and the academic content standards. In addition to these meetings parents are encouraged to attend parent/teacher conferences for teachers to work one-on-one with parents on their child’s specific needs and provide them with specific support material. Parents may schedule an appointment with a teacher at any time throughout the year. Parents are also free to attend school and visit their child’s classroom to observe their child during normal school day activities.

• With the assistance of Title I parents, the school educates staff members about the value of parent contributions, and in how to work with parents as equal partners.

Rio del Mar has an open relationship with all parents and encourages them to participate fully in all activities such as being a classroom volunteer, member
of the School Site Council, English Language Advisory Committee, and PTA. Additionally, parents are encouraged to attend other activities such as monthly Family Nights, monthly Coffee with the Principal meetings, Parent/Teacher conferences, Back to School Night, and other special events. The principal and other key staff members work as liaisons between the parents and staff to integrate parents, and their ideas, into the school environment.

- The school coordinates and integrates the title I parental involvement program with other programs, and conducts other activities, such as parent resources enters, to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

   *Rio del Mar works in coordination with the Office of Student and Family Support to provide resources for our parents related to emotional well-being, access to outside resources, and direct parent services. The school also conducts and after school program to facilitate academic improvement in students working below grade level. Furthermore, the school provides parent classes for learning English and computer classes to increase technology expertise. Monthly family nights also encourage parents and students to join in fun activities. The school also partners with community organizations to provide such items as food to the community and flu shots to support health and well-being. Monthly Coffee with the Principal meetings allows parents to ask questions regarding any and all concerns or limited understanding regarding any topic related to school operations.*

- The school distributes information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I parents in a format and language that the parents understand.

   *Rio del Mar provides translated documents which are used for parent communication purposes in a language which our parents can understand. Furthermore, interpreters are provided for all parent meetings.*

- The school provides support for parental involvement activities requested by Title I parents.

   *Rio del Mar provides staff support for all requested parent activities which may include any number or classification of staff depending upon the resources needed which may include custodial support, teacher involvement, or administrative assistance.*

**Accessibility**

Rio del Mar provides opportunities for the participation of all Title I parents, including parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that parents understand.
Rio del Mar provides translated documents which are used for parent communication purposes in a language which our parents can understand. Furthermore, interpreters are provided for all parent meetings.

16 Rio School District Teacher-Student-Parent Agreement

It is important that families and schools work together to help students achieve high academic standards. The following are agreed upon roles and responsibilities that we as partners will carry out to support student success in school and in life.

The Teacher Pledge

I understand the importance of the school experience to every student and my role as teacher and model. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- I will provide a safe, positive and healthy learning environment for your child.
- I will strive to be aware of the individual needs of your child and will work to maximize instructional time to achieve his/her educational potential.
- I will provide your child with instruction to develop language skills for academic success.
- I will ensure that appropriate skills and concepts are taught to maximize student performance.
- I will communicate class work and homework expectations clearly.
- I will assign homework to promote, enhance, and/or reinforce concepts previously taught.
- I will correct and return appropriate work in a timely manner.
- I will communicate with you regarding your child’s progress.
- I will be available to discuss your child’s progress by phone or by appointment.

The Student Pledge

I realize that my education is important to me. It helps me to develop tools I need to become a happy and productive person. I also understand my parent(s) or guardian wants to help me do my best in school.

I know I am the one responsible for my own success, and that I must work hard too achieve it. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- I will attend school each day staying out only when I am sick.
- I will arrive at school on time and be ready to work.
- I will return completed homework on time.
- I will share work, school information, and notes with my parent(s) or guardian and return them to school, when requested.
- I will be responsible for my own behavior.
- I will be a cooperative learner, allowing the teacher to teach and the other students to learn.
- I am responsible for seeking help in an appropriate time and manner when I need it.

The Family/Parent Pledge
I realize that my child’s school years are very important, and I understand that my participation in my child’s education will help his or her achievement and attitude. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

• I will ensure that my child attends school each day unless he/she is ill.
• I will see to it that my child arrives at school on time.
• I will notify the school when my child is absent and state the reason for the absence.
• I will make sure my child gets an adequate night’s sleep and has a healthy diet.
• I will support our school’s/district’s attendance, discipline, and homework policies.
• I will monitor my child’s progress in school regularly.
• I will provide an appropriate place for my child to study.
• I will encourage my child to complete his/her homework.
• I will attend Back to School Night, parent conferences, and Open House, and other school activities.
• I will limit any activities that interfere with my child’s learning.
• I will be sure that the school has my child’s completed and updated Emergency Card.
• I will schedule my child’s personal, medical and dental appointments after school hours when possible.

17 Parent Involvement Policy

General Expectations

Rio del Mar Elementary School agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

• Rio del Mar Elementary School will jointly develop with parents and distribute to parents of participating children, a Parental Involvement Policy that the school and parents of participating children agree on.

• Rio del Mar Elementary School will notify parents about the Parental Involvement Policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, will distribute this policy to parents in a language the parents can understand.

• Rio del Mar Elementary School will make the Parental Involvement Policy available to the local community.

• Rio del Mar Elementary School will periodically update the Parental Involvement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

• Rio del Mar Elementary School will adopt the school-parent compact as a component of its Parental Involvement Policy.

• Rio del Mar Elementary School agrees to be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and will carry out programs, activities and procedures in accordance with this definition:
Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—

(A) parents play an integral role in assisting their child’s learning;
(B) parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child’s education at school;
(C) that parents are full partners in their child’s education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;
(D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.

Rio del Mar Elementary School will implement required school parental involvement policy components as follows:

1. Rio del Mar Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development and joint agreement of its Parental Involvement Policy and its school wide plan, if applicable, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way under section 1118(b) of the ESEA:

Gather and disseminate to parents for review the following materials: District wide Parental Involvement Policy, the School’s Parental Involvement Policy, the school-parent compact, and Parent Notices from the Appendix B: Key Title I, Part A Parental notice Requirements table in the Title I, Part A Non-Regulatory Guidance. These materials will be disseminated to parents at regular Title I parent meetings, School Site Council meetings, and parent/teacher conferences. Written and oral input from parents will be solicited through Title I parent meetings, School Site Council meetings, parent/teacher conferences, school newsletters, school web site, and other regular written communications with parents.

2. Rio del Mar Elementary School will take the following actions to distribute to parents of participating children and the local community the Parental Involvement Policy:

- The School Parental Involvement Policy will be distributed to parents in the Parent/Student Handbook.
- The policy will be posted on the school web site.
- Parents of new participating students will receive the policy upon registration.

3. Rio del Mar Elementary School will periodically update its Parental Involvement Policy to meet the changing needs of parents and the school through:

- regular School Site Council meetings
- regular Title I meetings
- PTA meetings
- general school meetings

4. Rio del Mar Elementary School will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the following:

- That Rio del Mar Elementary School participates in Title I,
The requirements of Title I

Of their rights to be involved as outlined in Table B of Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Non-Regulatory Guidance, Section 1118; the school-parent compact, Appendix E, of the Title I, Part A Parental Involvement Non-Regulatory Guidance, the district wide parental involvement policy, and the school’s parental involvement policy and

Meetings will be held at various and convenient times to encourage parents to attend. Parents will be notified about meetings through school memos, newsletters, the web page, and the automated phone system.

5. Rio del Mar Elementary School will hold a flexible number of meetings at varying times, and may provide transportation, child care, and/or home visits, paid for with Title I funding as long as these services relate to parental involvement:

To encourage parents to attend these meetings, the school will offer training to parents to improve student success and achievement. In situations that prevent parents from coming to the school for meetings, school personnel may make home visits or arrange to meet the parents at a mutually convenient time off campus.

Rio del Mar Elementary School will provide information about Title I programs to parents of participating children in a timely manner through the automated phone system, memos, newsletters, and the web page.

Rio del Mar Elementary School will provide parents of participating children with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet through:

- the annual Title I parent meeting
- regular parent/teacher conferences
- Title I meetings and Family Nights throughout the year

(a) If requested by parents, Rio del Mar Elementary School will provide parents of participating children opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible:

- through prearranged meetings with the Principal
- through meetings with the student’s teacher which may include the principal, and other staff as appropriate

(b) Rio del Mar Elementary School will submit to the district any parent comments if the school wide plan under section (1114)(b)(2) is not satisfactory to parents of participating children:
Parents may submit comments in writing regarding the school wide plan to their child’s teacher, the principal, or the Categorical Programs department within Rio del Mar Elementary School District.

Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement

1. Rio del Mar Elementary School will build the school’s and parent’s capacity for strong parental involvement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities described below:

- parent training
- Family Nights
- Parental access to the Teacher Resources and other resources such as web sites, parent organizations, etc.
- Parent Partnership

2. The school will incorporate the school-parent compact as a component of its School Parental Involvement Policy:

- The school-parent compact will be a part of the School Parental Involvement Policy on the school’s web page.
- During regular parent/teacher/student conferences, the school-parent compact will be completed and signed by the teacher, the parent(s), and the student.
- As needed, the school-parent compact will be included in school newsletters along with the School Parental Involvement Policy.

3. The school will, with the assistance of the district, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school in understanding topics such as the following:

- the State’s academic content standards,
- the State’s student academic achievement standards,
- the State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- the requirements of Title I,
- how to monitor their child’s progress, and
- how to work with educators:

Parents will receive training and necessary information on the topics above through:

PTA workshops, School Site Council meetings, English Language Learner Committee meetings, Parent/Family Nights, Parent/Teacher Conferences, School-Parent Compact, student handbook, highlights of the standards, list of web sites, school sponsored trainings and workshops.
4. As appropriate, the school will, with the assistance of the district, provide materials and training such as literacy training and using technology to help parents work with their children to improve their children’s academic achievement and to foster parental involvement, by:

   holding regular Title I meetings, Family Nights, and encouraging parental participation in Parent Project and other community organizations

5. The school will, with the assistance of the district and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools, by:

   encouraging staff to attend parental involvement workshops and conferences, web-based learning, and site staff development.

6. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent- programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:

   Upon identification of parental need for information in another language or in another format, the school will take steps to ensure that the parent request is fulfilled.

18 Rio School District Student Technology Acceptable Use Agreement

Use of Rio School District technology is intended to support your academic success. You must read and agree to follow the network rules below to use your network account.

The Rio School District hereinafter referred to as Rio, has a strong commitment to providing a quality educational curriculum for its students, including access to and experience with technology. Rio’s goals for technology in education include promoting educational excellence in schools by facilitating collaboration, innovation, and communication, providing appropriate access to all students, supporting critical and creative thinking, fully integrating technology into the daily curriculum, and preparing students and educators to meet the challenges of a highly technological and information-rich classroom and workplace.

Rio recognizes that curricular technology can enhance student achievement. Rio provides a wide range of technological resources, including Internet access, to its students for the purpose of advancing the educational mission of the district.

Students waive any right to privacy or confidentiality to material that was accessed, created, sent or stored using Rio technology or a Rio provided network account.
Rio provides students with access to technology and the Internet. Through the Internet, students may have access to applications, databases, web sites, and email. Students are expected to use the technology and the Internet responsibly for school related purposes.

In compliance with California legislation, E-Rate, and the Children’s Internet Protection Act, Rio addresses the appropriate and ethical use of information technology in the classroom so that students and teachers can distinguish lawful from unlawful uses of copyrighted works, including the following topics: the concept and purpose of both copyright and fair use; distinguishing lawful from unlawful downloading and peer-to-peer file sharing; and avoiding plagiarism and provides for the education of minors about Internet safety, including appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms, cyberbullying awareness and response, and protect online privacy and avoid online predators.

Students are expected and will be held accountable to follow current legal regulations and the rules set forth in this policy and the student disciplinary code. Board Policies and Administrative Regulations will govern all violations of this policy. For clarification of other related student policies and consequences including suspension or expulsion that may result from misuse, please refer to your student handbook.

Student and Parent Agreement

As a condition of the right to use Rio School District technology services, students understand and agree with the following:

I will use technology resources responsibly:
- I will use the Internet and other technology resources for academic activities.
- I will store only educationally appropriate materials.
- I will not use Rio technology for commercial purposes or to offer or provide products or services through Rio technology.
- I will not use technology resources to violate Rio policies, federal and/or state laws.
- I will not intentionally access and/or store inappropriate information, including, but not limited to the following:
  - material that is obscene;
  - child pornography;
  - material that depicts, or describes in an offensive way, violence, nudity, sex, death, or bodily functions;
  - material that has been designated as for adults only;
  - material that promotes or advocates illegal activities;
  - material that promotes the use of alcohol or tobacco, school cheating, or weapons;
  - material that advocates participation in hate groups or other potentially dangerous groups.

I will not participate in unacceptable behaviors including but not limited to:
- personal attacks, harassment or bullying another person;
• creation and transmission of offensive, obscene, or indecent material;
• creation of defamatory material; plagiarism; infringement of copyright laws, including software, published texts, and student work;
• political advocacy and/or religious proselytizing;
• transmission of commercial and/or advertising material;
• creation and transmission of material which a recipient might consider disparaging, harassing, and/or abusive based on race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, and/or political beliefs.

I will use technology resources safely:
• I will not share my password with anyone.
• I will not give out my name, picture, address, e-mail, or any other personally identifying information online.
• I will only access social networking and collaborative web sites, blogs, or post to Internet sites as it relates to educational purposes.

I will use technology resources respectfully:
• I will not deliberately attempt to harm or destroy data on any system on the network or Internet.
• I will not damage equipment or inappropriately alter settings.
• I will not inappropriately alter any other users' files.
• I will not log in through another person's account or access another person's files.
• I will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the (insert district name/abbreviation here) network or to any other system using the (insert district name/abbreviation here) network.
• I will not go beyond my authorized access.
• I will not circumvent (i.e., use proxies) (insert district name/abbreviation here) Internet filters.
• I will not disclose names, personal contact information, or any other private or personal information about other students.
• I will not use the (insert district name/abbreviation here) network to engage in any unlawful activity or to threaten the safety of any person.
• I will not use threatening, obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory or disrespectful language.
• I will neither transmit nor post information that could cause disruption to my school or any other organization.

I will use technology resources in a manner that respects the intellectual property of others:
• I will respect the rights of copyright owners in my use of materials.
• I will not install, store, or distribute unauthorized copyrighted software or materials.
• I will properly cite sources for material that is not my own.