



2026 - 2027 RioGAFA Parent Commitment Packet

♥ Welcome to the 2026–2027 School Year! ♥

Dear RioGAFA Family,

Thank you for being part of our creative and passionate school community! To help us all start the year strong, we're asking every family to read and commit to the following expectations. These are designed to keep our students safe, engaged, and ready to thrive 🎨📚✨

Please take a few moments to review this packet and sign at the bottom to let us know you're on board! 🙌

Traffic & Drop-Off / Pick-Up

- The drop-off line is located in front of the school — please follow staff directions for everyone's safety. Elementary families may walk their students into the building to the lobby door, Middle school must drop them off.
- The doors to the school will open at **7:15 AM** each day.
- **Pick-up times are strict** ⌚ — be prompt and follow our pick-up protocol (map included at the end of the packet).
- ❌ No student may be picked up after **3:05 PM**.
- Please be patient with the bus this week. Our bus schedules are online. You must register with the front desk for the bus for your student. If a change is needed, please call the front desk.
- Afterschool will begin Monday. Students must be registered with the West Mesa Community Center. Please see the front desk to verify your student is registered.

School Operations

- School hours:
 - 🕒 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM (Mon–Thu)
 - 🕒 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM (Fri)
 - School phone: 📞 (505) 361-1838
 - Contact info for teachers and key staff is posted on our website
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- 🎭 **Showcase & Arts Events**
 - Showcase Days are **REQUIRED ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS**. Please look at class Dojo for these dates. We are looking at doing at least one Saturday event this year.
 - Be on the lookout for 📅 **Showcase Days** and **Visual Arts events** on **Class Dojo** — tickets may be required!
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Dress Code & Items from Home

- ❌ No crop tops or inappropriate clothing.
 - No spaghetti strap shirts for students.
 - Ripped jeans are ok, but if too ripped, leggings must be worn underneath.
 - Jackets are allowed, hoods and hats are not allowed.
 - Elementary parents K-3
 - Please bring a change of clothes to Cynthia in case of an emergency with your student's name on the bag to easily identify it.
 - 🍿 No snacks for class time — just send lunch for your child.
 - 🎒 No backpacks or bags allowed to support student safety.
 - Only clear water bottles are allowed in class to support student safety.
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Testing

- Testing dates will be shared on **Class Dojo**. Testing dates are **required** for students!
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Discipline

- Our non-negotiables:
 - ❌ No physical violence (zero tolerance)
 - ❌ No drugs (zero tolerance)
 - 🧑 Respect all adults
 - ❌ No hate speech
 - 📋 Discipline for Hate Speech:
 - 1️⃣ 3 Days ISS (In-School Suspension) – First offense
 - 2️⃣ 3 Days OSS (Out-of-School Suspension) – Second offense
 - Third offense - behavior contract or possible expulsion from school
 - ⚡ Property damage = family may be responsible for paying restitution
 - RioGAFA follows a progressive discipline model for all other student offenses
 - Please review our student handbook on our website for more information
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Attendance Commitment

- Attendance = Success! 🏆
 - 📞 3 absences = Parent contact
 - 🧑 5 absences = Meeting with admin
 - 📋 7 absences = Attendance action plan
 - Review NM state attendance policy ✅
 - Art blocks count for attendance and students should be present
 - Call-in number for absences: 📞 (505)361-1838
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Class Dojo Commitment

- All families **must join Class Dojo** using the QR code 
 - We use Dojo for:
 -  Updates,  Student behavior,  Event announcements
 -  Not joining Dojo may mean missing important info!
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Dismissal & Art Block

- First day & Tuesdays: Dismissal at **3:15 PM**
 - Wed–Thu: Dismissal at **3:20 PM**
 - Fridays: Dismissal at **1:15 PM**
 -  Art Block counts toward attendance, so don't miss it!
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Technology Policy

- All student phones/tablets are collected each morning and returned at lunch for limited use  
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Parent Pick Up Map

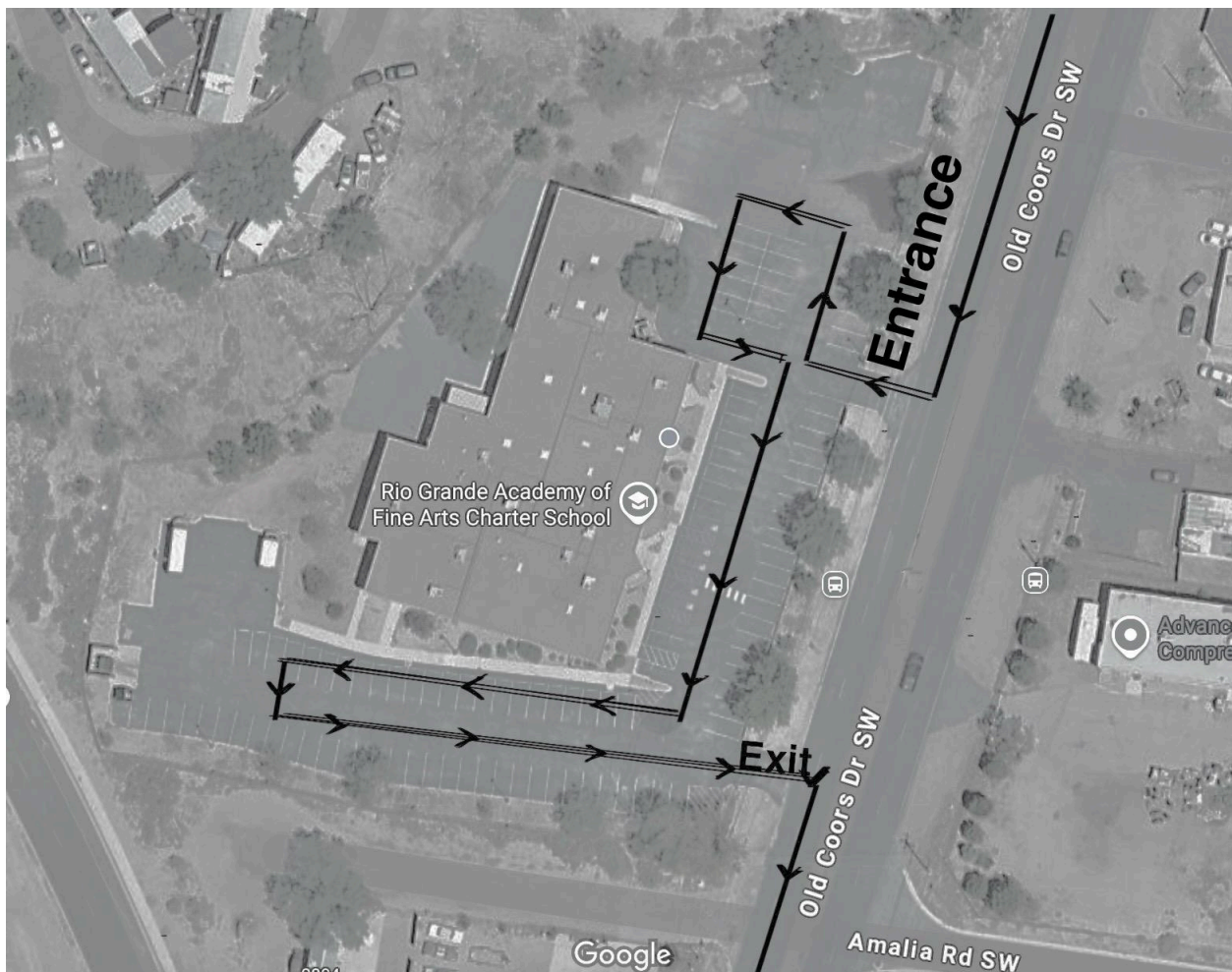
Dear Families, 🙌

As we kick off the school year, we kindly ask for your support in following our dismissal procedures to ensure the safety of everyone—especially our students. 🛑👤👤

We appreciate your **patience and grace** during the first few weeks as we work out any kinks and help students safely get to your vehicles. 🚗💡

Please form a line **on Old Coors**, as shown in the image below, to help keep traffic flowing smoothly. 🚦

To help us move quickly and safely, please be ready with your **student's name and grade level** when you arrive. Thank you for being such an important part of our RioGAFA community! ❤️



[illegible]

Offices Closed	June 30-Jul 3
Registration	
NEW STAFF Professional Development - NO SCHOOL	Jul 27
Professional Development - NO SCHOOL	Jul 28-Aug 3
Start of School	August 4
Labor Day: NO SCHOOL	September 7
End Quarter 1	October 8
Fall Break/Indigenous Peoples Day: NO SCHOOL	Oct 9-12
Celebration of the Arts: Door Decorating Contest	October 30
Celebration of the Arts: Fall Festival and Art Making	October 31
Election Day: NO SCHOOL	November 3
Community Thanksgiving Dinner	
Student Led Conferences	Nov 23-24
Thanksgiving Break: NO SCHOOL	Nov 25-27
Celebration of the Arts Practice	December 10
Celebration of the Arts: Winter	December 11
End Semester 1 (End Quarter 2)	December 18
Winter Break: NO SCHOOL	Dec 21-Jan 5
Professional Development: NO SCHOOL	Jan 4-5
Back to School Semester 2 Begins	January 6
MLK: NO SCHOOL	January 18
Celebration of the Arts: Around the World & Chinese NY	February 5
President's Day: NO SCHOOL	February 15
Read Across America	
Celebration of the Arts: Favorite Book Characters	
Celebration of the Arts: Visual Arts Show	March 6
End Quarter 3	March 12
Student Led Conferences	March 19
Spring Break	Mar 22-26
Professional Development: NO SCHOOL	March 29
NM MSSA Testing 3rd - 8th Grade	
Science Testing 5th & 8th Grade	
Spring Gala Performance Practice at School	May 20
Celebration of the Arts: Spring Gala	May 21
Kindergarten Promotion	
8th Grade Promostion	
Last Day of School (End Quarter 4)	May 28
Offices Closed	May 31-Jun 4

	Beginning of Semester		End of Quarter
	Early Release @ 1:30PM		Student Led Conferences
	Celebration of the Arts		Family Nights
	Holidays and Breaks		
	New Staff Professional Development/No School		School Not in Session
	Professional Development/No School		Offices Closed
	State Testing Days & Make Up Days		Last Day

Students	186
Staff (includes PD and SLC)	197
New Staff (includes PD and SLC)	198
11 Month Admin	213
12 Month Admin	231



Sign Below to Acknowledge

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the expectations above. I agree to support my child in following these school-wide commitments so they can have a joyful, safe, and successful school year! 🧡

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____