

roots & wings COMMUNITY SCHOOL



January 29, 2021

Dear RWCS Community,

I am sending the weekly update out a day early as Governor Grisham's announcement Tuesday has brought up an old saying "A picture is worth a 1,000 words", unfortunately in this case the 1,000 unspoken words are causing a lot of confusion. Schools are eligible to return after February 8th in the **Hybrid Model with all grades K-12!** In addition, there is over a page of requirements that a school **MUST** meet before students can return. There are only a very few schools that will be able to open soon after February 8th, and those are the ones that were already operating in the Hybrid Model before the winter holiday break. RWCS had announced in December that we would be remaining in fully remote learning through the 3rd quarter and would re-evaluate then. This announcement and some other potential options that may be coming in the near future gives us some hope that we may be able to return to some form of in-person learning for the 4th quarter, but I am **NOT** making any promises as we still have a lot of work to do to meet the NMPED requirements for reopening. The school has been pursuing the required equipment, procedures, and plans to try to reopen under these very stringent requirements. As always our priority is the safety of all our families, staff, and community. As I have stated previously, any family that wants to remain in the remote mode is eligible to do that through the end of the school year. I will keep everyone updated with this weekly update as we move forward with our plans.

IMPORTANT: ALL 3rd – 8th Grade Parents and Students

There is an art supply pickup happening NOW at TiLT (Peg's house) (215 La Posta Rd, Taos) and in the Greenhouse at the School. Taos area students should pick up at TiLT and Questa/Lama students at the school. The kits will consist of art supplies for the Wednesday required art classes with Sarah Newberry. In addition, thanks to our friends at Twirl Taos there will also be a mask-making kit that you will pick up at the same time. **PLEASE only take kits for students in 3rd – 8th grade, the K-2 students already did the mask making and have the supplies they need for their art classes.**

Just a reminder that this Wednesday, February 3rd, is a Regular School Day for all students and staff. Art and Music classes will occur as scheduled. Just a reminder, these are required school days and classes.

*Jon Orris, Director
Veronica Garcia, Office Manager*

35 La Lama Rd.
HC 81 Box 22, Questa, NM 87556
575-586-2076/fax 575-586-2087

roots & wings COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Chess Club has Openings

RWCS Chess Club has openings for any student that would like to join! The Chess Club meets Monday and Fridays from 5 – 6 pm via Google Meets with Sara Saint-Hogan. If interested please contact Ms. Sara at ssainthogan@rwcs.org.

Note from Veronica

Families, if you have not yet filled out and turned in your Free and Reduced Lunch Forms, please do so. These forms are what the state looks at to determine if you will receive a P-ebt card. [Link to the Free & Reduced Lunch Form](#). Please fill out the form and send it to Veronica (vgarcia@rwcs.org) as soon as possible, or call to request a form be sent to you through the mail. **Directors note:** PLEASE fill these forms out even if you don't think you will qualify, or if you do qualify, don't want to participate. This data is used to determine funding options for the school and helps reduce the cost we pay for internet access, etc. We have had a low response on this and that may cost the school thousands of dollars! Please take a few minutes to fill these forms out if you haven't done so yet. **Thank you to everyone who has completed them, but we are still missing a few.**

Family/Parent Portal

The [family and parent portal](#) on the PED website has been redesigned to improve accessibility and highlight important resources. Please check it out and share the link with families in your community.

The next Governing Council Meeting is February 16th at 5 pm. G.C. Meeting Agendas with the Google Meet link are posted on the school [website](#) 72 hours before the meeting. All are welcome to attend.

I hope you all have a good weekend and get to enjoy some of the recent snow!

Sincerely,

Jon Orris

Jon Orris, Director
[school calendar](#)

*Jon Orris, Director
Veronica Garcia, Office Manager*

35 La Lama Rd.
HC 81 Box 22, Questa, NM 87556
575-586-2076/fax 575-586-2087