

# roots & wings COMMUNITY SCHOOL



January 4, 2021

Dear RWCS Community,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a good break! I got a chance over the break to be out in some NM wild places doing some photography and exploring. I also participated in my first, and hopefully last FaceTime Christmas morning!

The school received some amazing news during the break, that we are being named NM Elementary Charter School of the Year! This award came from nominations made to the Public Charter Schools of New Mexico organization on our behalf. **The award ceremony (they filmed our portion yesterday afternoon at the school) will be broadcasted on Facebook, Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> starting at 6 pm. [Here is the link to Facebook for the broadcast.](#) Join that night to celebrate YOUR school!**



**Just a reminder that this Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 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. Note: Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> is an off day to celebrate MLK Day, other than that all of January will be regular school days.**

## Remote Learning Update

PED has required ALL schools returning after the break to be in a fully remote mode until at least January 18<sup>th</sup>. We have decided based on the feedback we received from our families and that the county is still in the Red, that we will remain in remote through at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. The Hybrid model that PED has outlined for us, will be very challenging for small schools and may end up forcing the school to bounce back and forth between Hybrid and Remote, so for consistency and the utmost safety for our families and staff we felt this was the best decision for our school.

## 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

*Jon Orris, Director*  
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thousands of dollars! Please take a few minutes to fill these forms out if you haven't done so yet. Thank You.

## Content Filters on Student Computers

The school enabled new software from Securly ([click here for more info](#)) on our school-owned student computers right before the holiday break. If you are searching the web and get a message with the school's logo that you are being blocked by the school, that is Securly in action. Securly not only monitors websites, but it is also monitoring email for inappropriate or concerning language. Also a HUGE reminder, **PLEASE KEEP ALL LIQUIDS/DRINKS AWAY FROM THE COMPUTERS!** We have had two computers destroyed by spilling liquid on them, it fries the motherboard.

## 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.

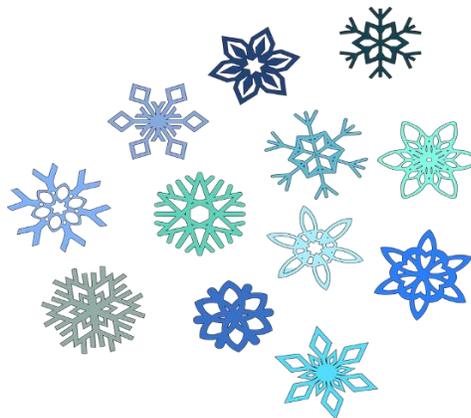
The next Governing Council Meeting is January 19<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. G.C. Meeting Agendas with the Google Meet link are posted on the school [website](#) 72 hours before the meeting. All are welcome to attend.

I hope you have a good weekend. Looks like snow in the forecast this weekend, which will be good for skiers and to help with our extreme drought. SNOW Dance everyone!

Sincerely,

*Jon Orris*

Jon Orris, Director  
[school calendar](#)



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