

roots & wings COMMUNITY SCHOOL



May 6, 2021

Dear RWCS Community,

Happy May! It feels a little weird that we are in our last month of school when students only returned in person four weeks ago! On the Superintendents/Charter Leaders call with the Secretary of Education this morning it was announced that the Pfizer COVID vaccination will be approved for children ages 12-15 years old by mid-next week. All families are encouraged to get all eligible family members vaccinated. One more step toward getting schools fully reopened!

New Teaching Staff for 21-22 School Year

I am very pleased and excited to announce the hires we have made for teaching staff for next school year and I hope you will welcome them to our community. It is always difficult when staff leaves and we will surely miss Ms. Annalise and wish her well! K - 2nd: **Jessica Joseph, aka Jiwanshakti, or Ms. J.** will be taking over in the K-2 classroom, and she has previously substitute taught with the school and will bring many new experiences to her students.

6th – 8th: We are very excited for the return of **Amelia Eshleman** who previously taught the 6th – 8th grade at RWCS for several years and has been serving on our Governing Council (she will be resigning that position).

End of Year Testing

Students will be participating in end-of-year interim assessments using I-Ready math and language arts during the week of May 17th. These are the same tests we gave at the beginning and middle of the year. These are NOT the usual EOY State Tests as we were allowed to opt out this year. Students will be taking the I-Ready tests either in-person or online during regular class time. These tests are required since we opted out of the state testing and teachers will be using this information for planning for next school year. Please encourage your child to do their best, so we get an accurate picture of their progress this year.

Graduation Ceremonies

Final details with dates and times will be released next week as we are working out the logistics to do them in a COVID safe manner and meet the requirements of PED. Graduation ceremonies will be held outdoors on the RWCS campus and streamed to be viewed remotely. We will also record it for those that can't watch live. We will have a staggered schedule for the different grade cohorts. **For those family members attending in-person, proper wearing of masks WILL be required along with social distancing. NO Food or Beverages will be served or allowed due to PED regulations.**

*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



Public Health Order Updates

Reminder: Masks must be worn by ALL people while on campus, including if you are in a car during drop-off and pick-up.

The current Public Health Order does not impact New Mexico's public schools. While we are pleased with the positive momentum across our state, we remind you that all COVID-Safe Practices (CSPs), including mask-wearing, are still in effect. Please see attached for a graphic you can share in your outgoing communications or on your social media channels – available [in English](#) and [Spanish](#).

PickUp Patrol

Thank you to ALL the families that have registered and are using the PickUp Patrol App! There are still a few not doing so and we **MUST** have this information in case of an outbreak. Your student can load it to their student computer as well to complete it. SERIOUSLY, it takes less than 30 seconds in the morning, and could ultimately help save a life!

Just a reminder that this Wednesday, May 12th, is a Regular Remote School Day for all students and staff. Art and Music classes will occur as scheduled. As always, these are required school days and classes.

The next **Governing Council Meeting** is May 18th 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.

It looks like it should be another beautiful Spring Weekend, so I hope everyone gets some time to enjoy it.

Sincerely,

Jon Orris

Jon Orris, Director
[school calendar](#)

RESOURCES

1. [PickUp Patrol App](#)
2. Surveillance Testing with VAULT information [found here](#)
3. [A Statement of Acknowledgement for Return to School](#)
4. [Re-Entry Plan](#)
5. [Student/Parent Handbook](#)

*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