



RIO NORTE

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

"Home of the River Hawks"

2018-2019 STUDENT BINDER REMINDER

Ms. Audrey Asplund

PRINCIPAL

Ms. Francine Dos Remedios

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Mr. David Miles

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Ms. Gina Burns

Mrs. Christine Racina

Mrs. Lisa Steinman

COUNSELORS

Mrs. Chris Liedblad

SCHOOL OFFICE MANAGER

Mrs. Edie Bertoldo

REGISTRAR

Mrs. Sharron Eineke

ATTENDANCE SECRETARY

Ms. Susan Hubbell

HEALTH TECHNICIAN

Ms. Nita Rege

ASST. PRINCIPAL'S SECRETARY

Mrs. Kathy Fortenberry

ASB/ COUNSELING SECRETARY

Name _____

Team _____

Student ID # _____

Infinite Campus Log In _____ Password _____

Student email _____ Password _____

Naviance _____ Password _____

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

28771 Rio Norte Drive • Valencia, CA 91354 • (661) 295-3700

<http://www.RioNorteJuniorHigh.com>

Rio Norte Bell Schedules

THE BLOCK SCHEDULE

<u>TIME</u>	<u>A1 DAY</u>	<u>B4 DAY</u>	<u>A2 DAY</u>	<u>B5 DAY</u>	<u>A3 DAY</u>	<u>B6 DAY</u>
7:45 AM - 9:17 AM	Per 1	Per 4	Per 2	Per 5	Per 3	Per 6
9:22 AM - 9:51 AM	Advisory	Advisory	Advisory	Advisory	Advisory	Advisory
9:51 AM - 10:11 AM	Brunch	Brunch	Brunch	Brunch	Brunch	Brunch
10:16 AM - 11:48 AM	Per 2	Per 5	Per 3	Per 6	Per 1	Per 4
11:48 AM - 12:23 PM	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:28 PM - 2:00 PM	Per 3	Per 6	Per 1	Per 4	Per 2	Per 5

Rio Norte has a rotating block schedule. Rotating gives both students and staff an opportunity to be at their best for all classes. Classes are split into “A” days and “B” days, with students taking half their classes on each day. “A1” means that students take their “A” classes that day (Periods 1 through 3), and begin the day with Period 1; “B4” means that students take their “B” classes that day (Periods 4 through 6), beginning with Period 4 – and so on. Whether you do your best work in the early morning, in the middle of the day, or after lunch, the rotating schedule means that you will have the chance to do different things at different times each day.

Advisory is a time for students to check in with and make contact with the same teacher on a daily basis. Advisory is a time for morning announcements, special video presentations, sustained silent reading, homework completion and intervention.

SPECIAL SCHEDULE DAYS

EARLY RELEASE DAYS - Students are released at 1:00 p.m. every Wednesday for E-Days. These early release days are included in the schedule to provide our teaching and counseling staff with collaboration time. This time will be used to review student achievement data, lesson planning, and professional development.

C DAYS - C Days are sometime necessary to allow for school activities and would otherwise disrupt the natural block rotation.

MINIMUM Days - Student dismissal time is at 11:35am on minimum days for a variety of reasons including Back-to-School and Open House.

E -Day

<u>TIME</u>	<u>Block</u>
7:45 AM - 9:12 AM	1 with Announcements
9:12 AM - 9:27 AM	Brunch
9:32 AM - 10:56 AM	2
10:56 AM- 11:31 AM	Lunch
11:36 AM- 1:00 PM	3

Minimum Day

<u>TIME</u>	<u>Block</u>
7:45 AM - 9:10 AM	1
9:15 AM - 9:45 AM	Advisory
9:45 AM - 10:05 AM	Brunch
10:10 AM- 11:35 AM	2

C- Day (attend each class)

<u>TIME</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>
7:45 AM - 8:32 AM	Per 1
8:37 AM - 9:24 AM	Per 2
9:29 AM - 9:42 AM	Advisory
9:42 AM - 9:57 AM	Brunch
10:02 AM - 10:49 AM	Per 3
10:54 AM - 11:41 AM	Per 4
11:41 AM - 12:16 PM	Lunch
12:21 PM- 1:08 PM	Per 5
1:13 PM- 2:00 PM	Per 6

INTRODUCTION AND MISSION

STATEMENT

Welcome to Rio Norte Junior High School, home of the River Hawks! The Rio Norte Junior High community is dedicated to providing a safe, flexible, positive, and nurturing learning environment in which all its members have the opportunity to experience a sense of belonging and personal growth, and all students have the opportunity to develop academic excellence.

THE BINDER REMINDER

It has been designed to help students be more organized in classes. Rio Norte ASB provides this valuable tool to help students get organized and be successful. The first Binder Reminder is free; replacements are \$10 and may be purchased at the ASB Window. We encourage students to have this book with them everyday at school, and **we** encourage parents to check it every day.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

(CHEATING POLICY)

Rio Norte follows district and board policies regarding academic integrity. There is an expectation that all students

will conduct themselves with honor and integrity on all assignments. Some examples of cheating include:

- Copying, e-mailing, or duplicating assignments that will each be turned in as "original work."
- Using "cheat sheets" or have writing on your person or property during a quiz or test.
- Using programmed material in electronic devices when prohibited.
- Exchanging answers with others (either giving or receiving answers).
- Allowing parents, family members, or friends to do work for you.
- Submitting material created by someone else without giving the name of the author and the source, publication, or website (i.e., plagiarism).

Teachers may assign a zero, grade reductions or other consequences in accordance with the policy on their syllabus. Subsequent offenses may result in one or more of the following: detention, the inability to participate in co-curricular activities, and/or other consequences determined by the school.

ADVISORY AND INTERVENTION

Rio Norte's Advisory-based intervention program allows teachers to address the academic and extracurricular needs of our students within the school day. Students should always come prepared with work to complete or get help on, or should have a book to read silently during this time. During Advisory on Tuesdays and Thursdays, students will participate in one of the following activities: Outdoor Privilege, special lesson or enrichment, or free study inside classroom (i.e. Study Hall).

APPLICATION FOR ENTERTAINMENT PERMITS OR WORK PERMITS

Students under the age of eighteen who are employed during the school year in the entertainment or any other industry are required by California state law to have a work permit. The school registrar provides proof of grades and attendance as required by law **only after** you have an offer for employment. Students are required to maintain "Satisfactory" or "C" average in all subjects, health, and attendance. Please allow 24 hours for the registrar to process permits.

ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY (ASB)

Students are represented by the student leaders of the Rio Norte Associated Student Body (ASB). Students should know their student representatives and should communicate their activity ideas and suggestions through them. ASB can then act as the voice of the student body. ASB is charged with providing the leadership necessary to create the atmosphere that will help make our students proud of their school and eager to participate in its many activities.

Rio Norte ASB makes it its mission to promote the welfare of the school, to encourage loyalty and school spirit, and to develop leadership. If you are interested in finding out more about getting involved with ASB activities, see Activities Director.

ATTENDANCE AND TARDIES

Parents are asked to call the school on the day of a student's absence. Parents may do so by calling the office between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. A note sent on the day the student returns is also acceptable. Absences should be cleared within three days. Uncleared absences will be recorded as unexcused. District policy

state that absences will be cleared for the following reasons:

- a. Illness
- b. Quarantine
- c. Medical, dental, optometric, or chiropractic appointments
- d. Attendance of a funeral for immediate family (one day CA, 3 days outside CA)
- e. Jury duty
- f. Illness or medical appointment of child for which student is custodial parent
- g. Service as a member of a precinct board for elections
- h. Attendance at a religious retreat (4 hours per semester)
- i. Justifiable personal reasons, including, but **not limited** to court, attending funeral service of extended family or friend, observance of religious ceremony or holiday, religious retreat, employment conference, educational conference

Unexcused Absences

Absences for reasons other than those listed above will be recorded as unexcused.

Multiple Absences

Studies show that there is a direct relationship between school attendance and student achievement. All students are required to attend school full time until they are 18 years old. Failure to attend school can result in serious legal problems for the student and their parents. Students should limit absences to 3 per quarter, with every three tardies counting as one absence. Attendance letters will be sent after 5, 10, and 15 days of absence, and a parent conference may also be required. If attendance does not improve after the conference, the student will be referred to the student tardy and attendance review team. Tardies will reset every quarter.

Long-Term Absences

Students who have health or other issues that require them to be out of school for longer than 3 weeks should discuss home study placement with their counselor.

Truancies

A student will also be considered truant if the student leaves class and/or the campus for any reason without obtaining prior permission from the teacher or the office. Such permission may only be obtained with phone call or written authorization

from the parent in advance of the student's leaving campus. No partial or full-day truancy will be cleared after the fact. A tardy becomes a truancy after the tardiness exceeds 30 minutes. Students who aid other students in being truant will be disciplined.

Tests, homework, or class work missed as a result of truancy cannot be made up. This could result in a lower grade for the class involved.

Citations for Truancy

Students caught being truant from school may be cited (ticketed) by the Santa Clarita Sheriff's Department. Students may be required to appear in Juvenile Court for sentencing, which could involve a fine and/or community service. Parents may also be cited if they are found to be allowing the truancy.

Tardies

Tardiness is a disruption to the classroom learning process. Rio Norte's proactive policy is intended to encourage students to be on time and ready to learn when the bell rings.

5 tardies - 2 lunch detentions assigned (5 demerits)

10 tardies- 4 hours of after school detention assigned (5 demerits)

BICYCLES AND OTHER VEHICLES

Bicycles, skateboards, non-motorized scooters, and rollerblades may be ridden to and from school with the understanding that they be operated in a safe manner. Students are required to wear proper helmets when using any of these items. None of these items may be ridden on school grounds. Bicycles and non-motorized scooters must be walked anywhere on campus. They may be stored in the bike racks located next to the gymnasium. Bicycles and non-motorized scooters are to be locked. The school is not responsible for damaged or stolen bicycles, skateboards, non-motorized scooters, or rollerblades. Shoes with wheels ("Heelies") are not allowed.

BULLYING PREVENTION

Students should report incidents of peer conflict or harmful behavior to trusted adults for resolution. Bullying is a pattern of behavior over time meant to inflict physical or psychological harm where there is a power imbalance in place. Rio

Norte is proactive about preventing bullying and will investigate and seek resolution. Student are advised to report negative behavior before it escalates.

CALENDAR AND INFORMATION

In this Binder Reminder, you will find activities happening at Rio Norte throughout the school year. For the most up-to-date information, please visit our website: **www.RioNorteJuniorHigh.com**.

Also, we are very fortunate to have a Blackboard Connect Messaging System which delivers an e-mail and a recorded voice message to all Rio Norte families. If you are not receiving regular messages by September, please contact the school registrar, as we may not have your current phone number and/or e-mail address. This is important, since we will use the Connect-ED system to contact all families in the event of school closure or other emergency.

CALIFORNIA JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP FEDERATION (CJSF)

CJSF is a statewide organization founded for the purpose of fostering high standards of scholarship, service, and citizenship in the middle school grades. To qualify for CJSF

students must earn academic points based on their grades. The number of points earned must be twice the number of academic subjects taken. Membership is not based on GPA. Also, membership is not automatic-- students must apply to become a member of CJSF. Applications are taken in early September (for 8th graders only) and in early February (for all students). Information regarding the application process will be announced in the daily bulletin and will be located on the CJSF webpage

www.hartdistrict.org/rionorte/rionortehtml/cjsf.htm.

Students pay a \$5 membership fee and are invited to a formal induction ceremony. Members are also eligible to attend special events and field trips. If you would like more information, please see the "Frequently Asked Questions" link on the CJSF webpage.

ID CARDS AND PICTURES

Each year all students are photographed for purposes of records and identification. Each student will receive their first student ID card free of charge. Pictures will be taken during Summer Check-In. \$10.00 will be charged for ID card replacements. Students must carry their ID card at all

times while on campus, including all after-school activities, dances, and field trips.

CAMPUS CITIZENSHIP

It is not possible in this short section to tell you all that we expect of you at Rio Norte. Here are some general suggestions to help you during the year:

- Be on time with your supplies to all classes, ready to work.
- Remain in class until excused by your teacher.
- Write your daily assignments in your Binder Reminder.
- Complete class work and homework daily.
- Carry a pass whenever you leave class.
- Respect others through your words and actions.
- Gum is not allowed on campus
- “Horseplay” or “Roughhousing” are not permitted on campus.

CELL PHONES

Cell phones may be used before school, at brunch, at lunch, or after school. If a cell phone is causing a disruption on campus, it may be confiscated and returned to the student or parent at the end of the day. Cell phones must be turned off during

class time, unless being used as an instructional tool under the guidance of the teacher. The first time a student’s cell phone rings, vibrates, or is visible in class; the cell phone is confiscated and given back at the end of the day. The second time, the cell phone will be confiscated, will only be returned to a parent, and will result in 5 demerits. Subsequent violations will result in additional demerits, and potentially detention or Saturday School. The school does not take any responsibility for lost or stolen cell phones.

COUNSELORS

Rio Norte counselors are assigned to teams and work directly with parents and staff to provide educational guidance and assistance.

DANCES

ASB plans dances for Rio Norte students. All school rules apply to these dances and **ONLY** Rio Norte students are allowed to attend. The dress code will be strictly enforced at all dances. Students with 30 demerits or more will not be allowed to attend the dance. A student ID card and a ticket are required to enter each dance. Students will be admitted up to 30 minutes

after the beginning of the dance only. Once admitted, each student is required to stay until the end of the dance unless a parent comes to the door of the dance to take him/her early. This is to ensure the safety of all our students.

Behavior on and off the dance floor must be socially acceptable. Movements that depict or suggest private, sexual acts are prohibited. Individuals or couples engaging in such acts will be removed from the dance and parents will be contacted. Also, slam-dancing, "moshing," crowd-surfing, and any other dangerous acts are prohibited.

DRESS CODE

The Governing Board for the William S. Hart Union High School District has adopted the following "Dress Code Policy" BP 51321. It states: "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 school activities in which they participate. Students' clothing must not present a health or safety hazard

or a distraction which would interfere with the educational process."

Hats/Eyewear: Hats and sunglasses may be worn for protection against the sun/weather. All hats/sunglasses should be removed upon entering a classroom or office building.

Tops/Shirts: Tops shall conceal undergarments. Shirts without sleeves shall have a two inch width at the shoulders and should not have large openings along the sides. Low cut, strapless, halter, backless and midriff baring tops are not permitted. Cold shoulder style sleeves are acceptable, but spaghetti straps are not permitted on any shirt.

Bottoms: Bottoms shall conceal undergarments at all times. Pants, skirts, and shorts may not have excessive rips above mid-thigh. Shorts shall be thumb/mid-thigh length, skirts fingertip length, and sagging pants and pajama bottoms are not allowed. Exercise tights should be worn with long shirts.

Footwear: Safe shoes shall be worn at all times. Slippers, flip-flops, high heels, steel-toed shoes and shoes with rolling devices

are not safe footwear and are not permitted on campus.

Other: Only school appropriate messages on hats and shirts are acceptable. Clothing advocating drugs, alcohol, weapons, or violence are prohibited. Crude, sexually suggestive or culturally biased clothing is also prohibited. Jewelry or clothing with dangerous spikes or chains are prohibited. PE sweats can be worn at any time, but uniforms are for PE classes only.

Consequences of dress code violations:

First Offense: The student is warned and parent/guardian is contacted by letter. There will be a change of clothing.

Additional Offense: The student is warned and parent/guardian is contacted by letter. There will be a change of clothing and 5 demerits assigned.

NOTE: Serious single or first-time offenses may result in parents being asked to bring a change of clothes or to take their child home to change. Repeated violations of the dress code may also result in detention, Saturday School and/or

additional loss of school privileges. Dress code guidelines are designed to help reduce potential problems on campus and provide a positive learning environment. The school dress code will be in effect **at all school activities.**

EXPULSION

Expulsion from the William S. Hart Union High School District will be recommended to the Governing Board for certain offenses (additionally, the student may also be subject to arrest by law enforcement). These offenses are:

1. Causing or threatening to cause serious physical injury to another person.
2. Possession of an explosive, a firearm, a knife, facsimile of a weapon, or other dangerous object or weapon.
3. Unlawful use/sale of a controlled substance.
4. Robbery or extortion.
5. Sexual Assault or Battery

EIGHTH GRADE TRIP

The Eighth Grade Trip at the end of the school year is a Hart District tradition that has lasted over 20 years now, and is a privilege earned by promoting members of the eighth grade class. Unlike regular field trips (where students are escorted in small

groups); teachers and students freely circulate throughout the park during the day. Prior to going on the trip, all students should identify at least two buddies with whom they will spend the day. We ask that parents find out, in advance, which buddies will be accompanying their child before signing the permission slip. Parents should contact the ASB Secretary in the front office if interested in attending.

Only eligible 8th Grade students will be allowed on the trip. Students must have less than 30 Demerits and at least 92.5 Credits (Credits must be earned by the end of the 3rd Quarter) to maintain eligibility.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students may not listen to portable music devices during class and can only listen with one earbud in during breaks.

EMERGENCY CARDS

For your safety, an emergency information card will be collected from each student. Please complete all personal information requested. It is extremely important for you to report any CHANGE OF INFORMATION in writing to the registrar's office. In case of a natural disaster or other emergency, this card

could be vitally important to the safety of your child. Additionally, Rio Norte will only release your child to those who are listed on the Emergency Card.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Drills to prepare for and practice fire, earthquake and lockdown procedures are conducted regularly on campus to help ensure student safety in the event of a real emergency. Emergency supplies are kept in a large storage container and replenished as needed. Monetary donations for emergency supplies are always welcome, and are tax-deductible.

EQUAL-ACCESS POLICY

It is the policy of the William S. Hart Union High School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, national origin, sex, handicapping condition, religion, or other belief be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination, related to programs or opportunities within the district. The Governing Board recognizes that the district is responsible for ensuring that it complies with state and federal laws and regulations governing educational programs. The district shall follow uniform complaint procedures when addressing

complaints alleging unlawful discrimination based on ethnic group identification, religion, age, gender, color, or physical or mental disability in any program or activity that receives or benefits from state financial assistance. More information on these uniform complaint procedures is available in the Rio Norte front office, or by clicking on the "Governing Board" link at [HTTP://WWW.HARTDISTRICT.ORG](http://www.hartdistrict.org).

FOOD SERVICE

Hot lunches and a la carte items are available for purchase. Cold drinks and snacks can also be purchased. Specialty food items from local restaurants are available on designated days of the week. Students are expected to deposit all trash in the campus trash bins. Let's keep our campus beautiful, River Hawks!

GAMBLING

Cards, dice, and other games of chance that may involve the exchange of money or valuables are prohibited. Consequences may be instituted for participating in such games regardless of whether money or valuables are exchanged.

GRADE CHANGES AND AWARDS

Any student who believes a grade has been recorded incorrectly on their quarter report card should contact the teacher directly and immediately to file a Petition for Grade Change. Legally, a student may petition for a grade change at any point in time, even after they have left Rio Norte. However, in order for a grade change to affect the outcome of any academic recognition program or ceremony, the grade change must have been filed no later than two weeks beyond the end of the quarter in question.

HEALTH SERVICES

A health assistant is available during school hours. If you feel ill or injure yourself during class time, notify your teacher immediately. He/she will give you a pass to the health office. If a problem occurs during brunch or lunch, you may report directly to the health office. Our services are limited to first aid, short rest periods, and parent notification. We cannot dispense any over-the-counter or prescription medication without proper medical authorization on file in the office. Authorization forms can be requested by contacting the school health assistant.

Students on any medication must submit it to the health office. Additionally, students are not to carry any medication to school. The health assistant will supervise the administration of all medication.

All PE notes must be submitted to the health office before school each day. PE notes should not be taken directly to the PE teachers. A parent may write a note excusing student from PE for one to three days, maximum. If a student is not able to participate in PE in excess of three days, a note from a physician is mandatory. If a student can participate in modified PE, (e.g. Walking instead of running, no upper body conditioning, etc.), a note from a physician is also mandatory and must state the duration of the modification.

If a student is suspected of being infected with a communicable disease, (e.g., conjunctivitis, chickenpox, head lice) the student must leave school and cannot return without a signed release from a physician.

HOMEWORK REQUESTS

Parents of students who have been absent three days or more may request homework assignments by calling the attendance

office. Please allow at least twenty-four hours to contact teachers and collect the work. Students are required to contact their teachers when they return regarding make-up work. Parents may also contact their child's teachers via phone, email or their class website. Students are also encouraged to get the names and numbers of classmates on their team to find out about missed work during an absence.

IN LOCO PARENTIS

The Latin phrase *in loco parentis* literally means "in place of the parent," and this principle applies to the relationship the school has with each student at Rio Norte. According to the state of California, students are considered under the care of the school from the time they leave home until the time they return home after school. Any inappropriate behaviors by a student on the way to or from school can mean disciplinary action at school. Please make wise behavior choices to and from school, or risk consequences at school.

LIBRARY

Library Hours

The Library is open to students 7:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Monday through Friday, and

during Brunch and Lunch. The library is closed afterschool on minimum days and on early release days (E-Days). Students are welcome to come in to read or study at those times that the library is open. If they cannot read or study quietly they will not be allowed to stay.

Book Circulation Policies:

1. Students need their ID card to check out books.
2. Books can be checked out for three weeks and renewed for an additional three weeks
3. Students can have up to three books checked out at a time.

Library Computers

The Library has 24 computers that are available for student use. Students must abide by the rules in the Acceptable Use Policy of the Hart School District that is signed by every student prior to registration. Each student is provided with an email account by the Hart School District for use in school and at home for school work. For more complete instructions on computer use, including logging on to Infinite Campus, the school network (while at school), and email use

please see “Computer Use at Rio” in this manual.

Student Resource Center

This is a database that is a digital library of reference books as well as newspaper and journal articles and multimedia items such as pictures, maps, flags, etc. It is a wonderful resource for students needing to do research at home. This database is available for students from home. On the Library website, click on **Students**, then on **Resources**, then on **Student Resource Center**, and then click on the **Infotrac** icon. Should a password be requested, use the word **remote**.

Textbook Inspection

A short inspection of all textbooks is done in the library during Check-In. A more thorough inspection should take place at home, and additional damages should be reported to the library by September 1st. Damages not reported by that date will be considered to be the responsibility of the current student. Students entering school after check-in will be allowed two weeks after their starting date to report damages. After two weeks, the student becomes responsible for the condition of the books.

LOST AND FOUND

If you find something on campus, please bring it to the office. If you lose something, check immediately with the office to see if your lost item has been turned in. All unclaimed items are given to local charities at the end of each semester.

MAIN OFFICE

We have a drop-off system in the front office for items to be left for students to pick up during brunch or lunch. Birthday balloons and flowers are not allowed on campus. We are not able to personally deliver messages or items to students.

MERIT POLICY

If a student violates school rules they will earn demerits. At the end of each semester all demerits will reset to 0. Students are given one warning each semester for electronic device, gum, food, and dress violations.

Students will receive 5 demerits for the following violations (These are examples and not an inclusive list):

Class or Intervention Referral, Detention, Dress code, Electronic Device, Gum, Food

or Drink in class, Horseplay, Profanity, Public Display of Affection, Tardies
Students will receive 10 demerits for Behavior resulting in Suspension.

Consequences for demerits each semester:

20 demerits: Extended detentions

30 demerits: Extended detentions, loss of dances and loss of all non-academic field trips (including Magic Mountain), & loss of school wide activities.

OFF-CAMPUS POLICY

Rio Norte is a closed campus. This means that students may not leave the campus during the school day without an off-campus pass issued upon the WRITTEN REQUEST of a parent or guardian. Students are to bring notes to the attendance secretary (**not the teacher**) before school, between classes, at brunch or lunch to secure off-campus passes. Parents/guardians need to sign students out and must present a valid form of identification to do so.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students must wear a PE uniform. Health-related excuses from PE for one to three days must be in writing and signed

by a parent. More than three days of non-participation in PE must be verified in writing by a physician. All doctor/parent notes must be submitted to the health assistant before school. No child will be denied the opportunity to participate in physical education due to financial hardship. If you need assistance in paying for your PE uniform, please notify your PE teacher or any school personnel in the front office.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Permanent markers (Sharpies, etc.), speakers, laser pens, aerosol products (i.e. hair spray or deodorant) are not allowed on campus. If brought to school, these items will be confiscated for parent pick up.

PTSA

The Parent/Teacher/Student Association newsletters will be published quarterly, reflecting team and student activities and accomplishments, upcoming events and other pertinent information. PTSA holds its association meetings the first Thursday of every month beginning in September. Please plan to be a part of this group so you can hear what is coming up first-hand.

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION

Public displays of affection (PDA) are not acceptable. Students violating the “PDA” regulation or found engaging in any sexual activity on campus are subject to disciplinary measures including, but not limited to, parent contact, demerits or suspension.

RETURNED CHECKS

Returned checks must be paid for in cash or money order, plus an additional \$10 bank fee. Until re-paid in full, your child may lose extra-curricular school privileges.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Each teacher will list recommended supplies in his or her course syllabus.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The William S. Hart Union High School District will maintain a learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment, including same-sex harassment, is a form of sexual discrimination under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and is prohibited by both federal and state laws. According to Board Policy 5145.7, behavior that constitutes sexual harassment is

prohibited. It is a violation of this policy for any member of the Hart District staff to harass another staff member or student through conduct or communications of a sexual nature. It is also a violation of District policy for students to harass other students or staff through conduct or communication of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature when made by a member of the school staff to a student, or to another staff member, or when made by a student to another student or staff member, or when submission to the conduct is a condition of receiving benefits in employment or academic status, or is sufficiently severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment. Parents, students, teachers, and staff can do a great deal to eliminate sexual harassment by behaving in a manner that encourages respect for all individuals. Any student who feels that he/she is being harassed should immediately contact a teacher, counselor, or administrator to file a complaint.

SMOKING, NARCOTICS, AND ALCOHOL

Smoking and possession of tobacco, e-cigarettes, etc. are prohibited. Penalties may include, detention or education on risks and dangers of use for a first offense. According to district policy the use or possession of narcotics, controlled substances, paraphernalia, or alcohol on school premises, or appearing at school or school functions under the influence of narcotics or alcohol, may result in an immediate suspension from school and/or a transfer to another junior high school.

STANDARDS BASED INSTRUCTION

The State of California has established standards for what students should know in each curricular area. If you are interested in accessing the standards go to: [HTTP://WWW.CDE.CA.GOV/BE/ST/SS](http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss)

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Rio Norte's Suicide Prevention policy is modeled after the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. If a student is identified as being at risk, a school mental health professional will assess the student and will provide resources

or immediate crisis intervention as needed. Students will have access to national resources which they can contact for additional support, such as: The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1 (800) 273-8255 (TALK) or The TrevorLifeline 1 (866) 488-7386.

All students are expected to help create a school culture of respect and support in which students feel comfortable seeking help for themselves or friends. Students are encouraged to tell any staff member if they, or a friend, are feeling suicidal or in need of help.

Because of the life or death nature of these matters, student confidentiality or privacy concerns are secondary to seeking help for students in crisis.

TESORO VILLAGE

We highly encourage students be picked up and dropped off at school, where we are able to provide supervision. Please note that students who are picked up at Tesoro Village are expected to follow rules imposed by their management. Students engaging in disruptive or disrespectful behavior while at Tesoro Village may be subject to school consequences and may

lose the privilege to be on the property of Tesoro Village without parent/guardian supervision.

TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks will be issued to all students. Students and parents are responsible for lost and damaged books. Payments can be made to the library. If the lost book is found later, the amount paid by the student for the lost book will be refunded. The school is not responsible for textbooks or personal property stolen from a student.

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

For the safety of all our students, all visitors and volunteers must be cleared by the office before entering the campus. When visiting a teacher, please make an appointment prior to the conference. All visitors must sign in and out at the front desk and wear a visitor's badge while on campus.

WEAPONS POLICY (SEE "EXPULSION")

YEARBOOK

The Rio Norte yearbook will be distributed to students just before the end of school. The yearbook price will go up after winter break and again when the yearbooks are delivered in May.

A final number is given to the yearbook publisher the day we leave Winter Break. Yearbooks ordered before Winter Break are guaranteed, yearbooks ordered after Winter Break will be available while supplies last.

You can order your yearbook from the ASB Secretary in the front office, or at jostensyearbooks.com

Note: Students will not receive their yearbook until all library books and textbooks have been returned and all school fees have been paid.