

RIO HONDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Board Members:

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October 11th -15th

The District reported two Covid-19 positive cases this week one at the elementary school and one at the middle school with 23 students put in quarantine at the middle school.

We finished the week with 1611 students

Elem-603 Middle- 478, High-528

The overall attendance rate for the week was 90.002% We would like it to be in the mid 90's

It is official! Our portion of the 2021-2022 JET Grant is \$331,056. The district will be spending the proceeds in the Criminal Justice area of the high school. The purchases will include; 911 Reality Plus Simulator system, Police Interceptor Driver Training Simulator LE-1000 Police Driver System, DJI Matrice 200 V2 Drone, VirTra System 300 LE-1 simulator system (A virtual police call simulator putting the student into real scenarios as if they were on a police call)

We have submitted the paperwork for the new library books, the elementary will be ordering- 8,152 titles, the middle school – 5,750 titles, the high school- 1,811 titles. The high school is also working on a proposal for new updated furniture for the library to make it more student friendly and resemble one on a college campus. A software purchase will be made to track our books more efficiently.

Monday we went online with the new website. This website also has an App that you will be able to download, giving you the ability to download any of the extracurricular calendars and be able to have real-time schedule changes. We still have a couple of kinks to work out, but I think it looks great!

At Monday's Board meeting we did a trial of the U-Tube app that will allow us to broadcast our Board meetings live. We will have a link posted for the next meeting in November for all that want to watch your Board in action.

November 1st we plan on going live with our new Bus/Transportation App. ALL students will have an I.D. card and will scan their card to get on and off the bus. This will give parents real-time data as far as where their student is, and they will be able to plan when to go to the bus stop to get them. If you have an athlete and sign-up on the APP, you can be notified as the bus gets 20 miles from the school. In the future we will use the I.D. cards to check out books and scan for meals.

E3 started replacing lights at the high school on Monday the 27th and are working their way through to the other schools. The high school is about complete. The Administration office is done and I believe F.A.C.E. is almost complete. We will keep you updated as the bigger things start to get done.

We received news about our E-Rate Funding, it will be used for District Wide Networking (Replacing Legacy Switches Districtwide): \$113,205.58 High School Wireless Upgrade: \$32,364.86

Cabling: \$23,120.00 Maintenance and Support: \$32,364.86 Total Funded: \$203,752.94

We've received the Funding Commitment Decision Letters from USAC regarding the Emergency Connectivity Fund and we're approved on everything applied for. This will cover the 1400 additional Chromebooks, Chromebooks licenses and 400 ATT Hotspots. The total amount funded is \$458,565.00.

And on a sad and final note: One of our own, Omar Reyes', life was celebrated this week. Mr. Reyes was 60 years old, He was a teacher of all, a student at heart, a spiritual leader anywhere he was present. Mr. Reyes leaves behind a legacy of goodwill and spiritualism. I am saddened, that I was not fortunate to know him longer, and am in envy of those who did. May he rest in peace.

Roger Ellis

Superintendent of Schools



Rio Hondo ISD

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