



Parent News

April 16, 2020

P.O. Box 41, Rehoboth, NM 87322 ● 505-863-4412 ● www.rcsnm.org

Right now, Rehoboth Christian School is living proof that bigger is not always better. Our student population of about 400 presented all kinds of advantages when the Coronavirus hit. Without layers of bureaucracy, Rehoboth was able to design a distance learning program so that students could continue their education with less interruption, and we established a meal pick-up-and-go site with ease. With fewer students, our staff has been able to stay in contact with almost every one of their learners through phone calls or video chats. Fewer students have meant that we can deliver school materials, food, and water to people who expressed need—even though our school families come from an area of over 3,000 square miles.

There's an intimate relationship that is established within this small, tight-knit Rehoboth community. We walk alongside families who are losing jobs and have increased expenses. We ache with parents whose children are struggling through all the time at home—away from friends and staff. We sympathize with adults trying to guide children who have lost motivation for school in the midst of all this uncertainty. In our staff meetings, teachers share the names of students who have not turned in work or who have not been in communication with the school; and then teachers and coaches with close student relationships jump in to volunteer as contacts to try to get these young learners back on track. We know the story of the student who lives in the mountains hampered by muddy roads or bad internet. We have staff encouraging our students and their families during this time by developing and sharing video chapels.

With fewer students, our counselors, chaplain, Title 1 teachers, and Special Education staff have been able to continue to maintain relationships with students and families who need encouragement. We strive for a school in which no parent or student is just a number, a grade, or a discipline record. Instead, we create a united family when staff are driven by a common mission and a love for the people we serve. We create a united family when elders, parents, and the school speak wisdom into the lives of young people with one voice. We create a united family when, in the midst of our fears and uncertainties, we proclaim that that Lord is King and that we can trust Him to provide us just enough for today—even though we can't see all the way down the path before us.

We're certainly not perfect, but we are small enough and nimble enough to adapt, improve, and encourage each other to do better and better in this thing called "Distance Learning." Would I like more students at Rehoboth? Sure, let's add about 50 more. But then we better stop . . . because bigger is not always better.

Bob Ippel
Executive Director

Upcoming Events

- April 20 School Material Exchange Day for K-12 (Breakfast, Lunch or Designated Bus Stop Routes)
- April 27 Sovereignty Day- No School
- April 27 Virtual Rehoboth Christian School Board Meeting
- May 20 Last Day of Classes

All School Announcements

Why Does Rehoboth Require Students to Continue Their Education?

I am sure some of your children are envious of friends or relatives who have the *option* of participating in educational activities for the rest of the school year. Why not just have a LONG summer vacation? The “Summer Slide” has been something that has been researched in education for years. While it varies by grade, subject, and family income level, we know that student achievement scores decline by about a month during normal summer vacations. Imagine if summer vacation was twice as long or even longer! While distance learning is not our most ideal method of teaching, we believe it is worth the effort for our staff because it is important for the students to continue to grow. One study even noted reading improvement for 4th and 5th grade students whose teachers texted their families once a week to encourage them to keep reading in the summer. Think about the benefit of our teachers reaching out to your children during these weeks of school. Our prayer is that we can still encourage your child to grow academically, emotionally and spiritually—even if it’s from a distance.

Handing in the Homework

The staff appreciates the efforts you have gone through to turn in homework/projects on a consistent basis. Some of you simply push send on the computer. Some of you drive to an internet hotspot so you can push send. Some of you drop off homework on campus. Some of you meet a bus to do a school material exchange. Some of you take a picture of the homework and send it to the teacher. The teachers appreciate the efforts you make to communicate. Keep it up.

Let Us Know if Groceries Would Be Helpful

World Renew from the Christian Reformed Church of America has blessed Rehoboth with a grant to assist families with groceries or water. If you have experienced job loss or increased expenses because of Distance Learning and would benefit from groceries, email Mrs. Lynch at Rehoboth Christian School at camillalynch@rcsnm.org. World Renew is also partnering with Rehoboth and the Gallup Water Store in providing water for those who do not have easy access to water. Please share that information with Mrs. Lynch. Questions? Call 505-863-4412.

Cancellations

As you know, new guidelines are being issued all of time about how we will be living during the summer months. We have been notified of several cancellations already. We will update this list if we hear of other cancellations. The following have been cancelled:

Rehoboth June Camp

ENMU Choir Camp

Camp Dunamis

FCA Camp

School Material Exchange Day for Grades K-12

Monday is school resource material exchange day for all students in grades K-12 who are doing their work via USB or paper copies. Please use your manilla envelope or folder to turn in your USB flash drives or handwritten work. You will then pick up your new materials. This can be done at the Fellowship Hall Meal Pick Up (Breakfast 8-9:30, Lunch 11-12:30) or at a designated drop off spot on your child's bus route. **Please contact the school to let us know which option you will use on Monday.** If your internet is not working as well as you had hoped, contact the school so we can get you the flash drive for lessons. If you are now getting the internet and do not need the USB flash drive, let us know that too. If you are using internet-based instruction like Google Classroom, you may not need to do any exchange unless teachers are giving out new materials.

Material Exchange on Bus Routes

Please note that we have made changes to the bus route drop off spots. There are now fewer drop off spots, and the drivers will wait longer at each stop. Drivers will NOT be in buses, but rather Rehoboth vehicles.

Navajo Nation WI-FI Hotspots

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority facebook page posted: Starting April 10, 2020 there will be free wi-fi spots on the Navajo Nation for students from 9am - 3pm Monday thru Friday, no holidays. One of the locations available is in Fort Defiance, AZ (NTUA Headquarters parking lot) for the students who live in the vicinity of Window Rock / Fort Defiance areas.

COVID 19 Resource Page

We keep updating our resource page on the Rehoboth website. Click [here](#) to check it out.

Supporting Rehoboth Families

Rehoboth Families: We would love to help promote the goods that you sell and the services you provide to bring in income for your family. We have created a page on our website as a directory for the Rehoboth community to see the different ways they can help Rehoboth families during this unique season we are now in, but also as we move forward in the future.

<https://www.rcsnm.org/admissions/schools/supportingrehobothfamilies.cfm>

If you would like to have your business added to this site, please see the link to the form that you can fill out, or email back the information requested in the form to kzylstra@rcsnm.org.

We also plan to spotlight Rehoboth community businesses on our social media platforms to help get the word out. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Ken Zylstra, Director of Advancement at (505) 488-3900.

Tuition Payments for the 2019-20 School Year

April tuition statements have been sent to you. A few reminders:

1. If you have concerns about payments or payment schedule, please contact the school. We are here to work with you.
2. If you use the FACTS system and need to make adjustments, communicate that five days prior to payment date if possible.
3. If you have paid in advance for choir tour, senior class trip, junior/senior banquet, you can let us know if you want that applied to your tuition or meal account. If you have no balance, you can ask for a refund or donate to a friend.

Elementary News

My Prayer for You

I pray that in this time of change, where everything is different from what it used to be, that God opens your eyes to the wonder of who he is. I pray that you notice more and more how his image is reflected in each of your family members. I pray that in this time of quietness, with a lot less going on, that he gives you abundant time in his presence and in his word, for you to know him in a deeper and truer way. May God open your eyes to the blessings around that you may not have noticed before.

Chapel Song

Every Friday, the RCES staff hopes to share a chapel song with you. By the end of the year, we'll have quite a collection of music! Sing along, do the motions and ask your kids to share their favorite chapel songs with your family. We hope that you will be able to worship together as a family! [Peace Like a River](#)

Peter Ippel, Elementary and Middle School Principal

Middle School Matters

My Prayer for You

I pray that in this time of change, where everything is different from what it used to be, that God opens your eyes to the wonder of who he is. I pray that you notice more and more how his image is reflected in each of your family members. I pray that in this time of quietness, with a lot less going on, that he gives you abundant time in his presence and in his word, for you to know him in a deeper and truer way. May God open your eyes to the blessings around that you may not have noticed before.

7th/8th Grade Website

We've updated how students can access all of their online materials and lessons in the 7th and 8th grade. You can now visit this website sites.google.com/rcsnm.org/7-8 as a starting point for all classes. Many classes will still use google classroom for submitting assignments, but this provides a clear layout of what is going on each day in each class. We hope it helps you as you organize your lives of distance learning!

Pass/Fail Grading

Distance learning is challenging, so we will grade all middle school work on a pass/fail basis. We expect students to try their best to complete every assignment to the best of their ability. Students will receive a pass grade for work that is completed and turned in to the best of their ability. In Renweb, these assignments will be marked with the code **valid**. If work is not turned in or is not complete, the assignment will be marked as **incomplete (or missing)**. We expect a valid grade for every assignment for a student to pass a class. We will be working to find a way to send out reports of incomplete assignments to all families to help you keep track of your child's progress.

Peter Ippel, Elementary and Middle School Principal

High School Highlights

Attention Navajo Language Students

Mr. Redhouse is working very hard to connect and converse with his students on the phone to help them grow in Navajo language. However, he is running into problems with students not being available at the appointed times for those conversations. Please make every effort to be ready for your phone calls when scheduled out of respect for the tremendous time and effort Mr. Redhouse is putting in for you. Parents, your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Teaching Blocks for the rest of the year

High School classes for the remainder of the year will proceed in 2-week blocks of instruction. The remaining dates are:

Session 3:	April 20 - May 1 (USB's exchanged on 4/20)
Session 4:	May 4 - May 15 (USB's exchanged on 5/4)
Exam Week:	May 18 - May 21 (USB's exchanged on 5/18)

Whether you are an online student or completing your work by USB Drive, these are the dates that teachers will be working with.

Homework Document

Parents and students, our teachers are once again using the Homework Document to lay out the assignments and lessons for their classes during this distance learning time. You will find the document at bit.ly/RCHS-HW-2019, and it includes the assignments through April 17.

USB Exchanges and Bus Stop Drop Offs

At the end of each learning block (see above), students who are completing their classes via USB Drive will turn in their saved work and collect a new drive with their upcoming learning materials. These exchanges will happen on Mondays (see dates above).

On these dates, families may make their exchange at the Fellowship Hall during Meal Distribution Times (8-10am breakfast or 11am-1pm lunch) or they may conduct the exchanges in the afternoon with a driver at designated stops and drop-off times. Please confirm with the school which option your family will use for Monday exchanges.

Course Sign Ups for Next Year

Mr. Huizinga is in the process of meeting with students about their classes for the 2020/2021 school year. Look for information regarding what classes are available and a copy of your current transcript. Students can then sign up for a meeting with Mr. Huizinga and go over their academic plan and put together a schedule for next year. These meetings begin with Juniors and move on to Sophomores and Freshmen.

AP Testing

For students in AP Classes, the College Board has come up with a way for you to take this year's exams online from your home. Your teachers will be in contact with more information in the weeks ahead if this is something you would like to pursue. The exams will be only 45 minutes long, consisting of either a single essay question or two free response questions. Students can opt out of the exam at no penalty if they have already signed up, but no new students can sign up at this time. The College Board is giving students all the way up until the day of the exams to decide whether they will take them or not. Contact your teachers or Mr. Meester with any questions.

Chapels

Mr. Meester will be sending chapel videos out each week to our students and families. Consider watching and discussing them together for some quality family time. This week's chapel video is called "Crucifixion as Coronation,," discovering the unique way the Gospel of Mark shared the story of Christ's death with a Roman audience. You can watch at this link: <https://youtu.be/432S5120Qw>

Grade Checks and Parent Communication

Mrs. Lynch will run our next grade report on Thursday, 4/23 for all RCHS students and reach out by phone to the families of students doing poorly in their classes. This is an effort to keep everyone aware of their children's progress, even while we are apart. If there are extenuating circumstances that the school needs to know about, please share them with Mrs. Lynch during these calls. Parents and students can still find grades on RenWeb as well.

Exam Week & Sr. Exam Exemptions

All RCHS students will be completing their exams or culminating projects during the same week this year (May 18-21). Seniors can earn an exemption for the exam in a particular class if they are passing the class with a higher percentage at the end of 4th quarter than they had at the end of 3rd quarter. We'll remind everyone of this as exam time draws closer, but please keep up the diligent work!

Graduation Ceremony

Based on social distancing rules for the weeks ahead, it does not appear that we will be able to hold a graduation ceremony for our seniors at the normal time this year. Your safety is important to us, especially when we consider the number of elders who attend these ceremonies in support of their grandchildren and other family members. However, we also do not want to deprive our seniors of this special moment to conclude their high school experience. At this time, our plan is to try to hold an actual ceremony in late July, but we will keep everyone up to date on those plans as things evolve.

Counselor's Update

ACT / SAT Tests

As of this week, the SAT has canceled the scheduled June test. They are hoping to resume testing during the month of August and offer more frequent testing sessions. The ACT still has their June test open, but may soon cancel. They too would resume testing in August.

The good news with all of this is that many colleges are dropping the standardized testing requirements for the next couple of years. There will be much more of an emphasis on a student's GPA. So, get in your homework, ask questions, and study for tests. Check the Parent News for updates or go directly to the SAT or ACT websites.

Scholarships / Programs / Financial Aid-

Continental Divide Electric Education Scholarship

Students whose family gets their electricity from Continental Divide Coop and are planning on attending a NM public college or university are eligible for this scholarship. Scholarships up to \$4000 are available. Deadline for application is May 1, 2020. More information and applications can be found at <http://www.cdec.coop/scholarships>

First Financial Credit Union

Students who are members or have family who are members of FFCU can apply for a \$1500 scholarship. Students need to be planning on attending a NM college or university. Applications can be found at www.info.ffnm.org/scholarships

New Mexico Gas Company

NMGC Native American Scholarship Program is beginning to accept applications for their scholarships of \$2000. Applicants need to be an enrolled member of a NM Pueblo, Tribe or Nation, a resident of New Mexico, and need to be planning on attending a college, university, or trade school. This scholarship opens beginning of April. www.nmgco.com/en/about_NASP

Office of Navajo National Scholarships and Financial Aid (ONNSFA)

Applications for scholarships and financial aid opened March 15, 2020. Students need to have FAFSA completed, their CIB and a couple other documents. More information can be found at <https://onnsfa.org/what-you-need-to-apply>

IHS Scholarship Program

Students who are looking to go into the medical field can apply for these scholarships. There are scholarships available for both graduate work and undergraduate programs. Find more information at <https://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/scholarships/>

New Mexico Activities Association

NMAA has a variety of scholarships available for seniors who intend to attend college next year. More information can be found at <http://nmact.powermediallc.org/nmaa-foundation-scholarships/>

Admissions Corner

District code in ParentsWeb is: RE-NM

Know any families interested in Rehoboth?

Send them our way and give them our phone number to get more information. I am so appreciative of our families who have talked to their friends about Rehoboth. Last year, 73% of our new families heard about Rehoboth through word of mouth.

If you have a friend interested or have additional children you'd like to enroll, our online new student application is now open .

Are you returning next school year? [To begin your re-enrollment click here!](#)

If you are having any trouble re-enrolling you can email or you can call me for assistance.. If there are any concerns about next school year regarding your enrollment, we are always here to talk further. You can reach me or the school principals as well as our executive director.

There is no fee or deposit needed to re-enrollment, it's FREE. After re-enrolling know that the following conditions need to be met to keep your your child's seat secure for 2020-2021 school year:

- a) Re-enrollment completed through ParentsWeb
- b) No Administration concerns have been expressed regarding student academic progress or student behavior.
- c) After re-enrolling, a Tuition Assistance Application must be completed if tuition assistance is needed.
- d) Rehoboth must have a 2020-2021 tuition contract signed and returned to us..

"I've re-enrolled, now what?"

Applying for tuition assistance (TA) is the next step.

Due to the current circumstances at hand, the tuition assistance application deadline has been extended before we begin issuing FULL tuition contracts.. **The new deadline will be April 30, 2020.** When returning your TA application, please also include your 2019 1040 tax document at the administration office or by email it to admissions@rcsnm.org

The application is available at the end of the Parent News. You may also notice the tuition assistance application is different from previous years. We have added a few more questions and we may return it to ask for you to answer questions left blank.

If you have any questions or circumstances pertaining to your tuition assistance application, please call or email. We can be reached at admissions@rcsnm.org or at our school front office phone at 505.863.4412

Donor Scholarships

During the spring we normally are offering donor scholarships for next school year. We will be holding off on offering the Spring scholarships but as soon as we are prepared to offer them we will communicate that here in the parent news and by email. Stay tuned!

Verlena J. Livingston, Director of Admissions

vlivingston@rcsnm.org

505.726.9692

Food Service

Drive-by Meals for kids!

New hours

Free for children/youth through age 18.

Breakfast 8-9:30 (Adults \$2.00)

Lunch 11-12:30 (Adults \$4.00)

We will NOT be open for meal service on the
Sovereignty Day holiday, April 27th.

Even Superheroes need a rest.



I'm a
LUNCH LADY
what's your
Superpower?

Remember School Lunch Hero Day, Friday, May 8th.

Nurse's Corner

Staying Healthy- Reminders

1. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
2. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Put your used tissue in a waste basket. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands.
3. Stay home if you are sick with a fever, a cough accompanied by a fever, if vomiting or if you have diarrhea. Stay home until you have been fever/symptom free for at least 24 hours without medication.

Transportation

Zuni/SW Gallup		pm			
Zuni CRC Mission	4:40				
Bread Springs Speedway Store	3:55				
UNM Gallup Campus by the PHYS ED Building	3:35				
Crownpoint/Thoreau		pm		Tohatchi/N Gallup	
Crownpoint CRC	4:30		Tohatchi LDS Church	4:20	
Thoreau Senior Center	3:55		Tohlakai CRC on EAST side of HWY 490	3:55	
Continental Divide	3:40		Larry B. Mitchell Rec Center	3:30	
Turtle Butte (Gravel Pile on North side of road at the Wingate Bridge)	3:25				
Window Rock/Ft. Defiance		pm		Houck/W Gallup/Mentmore/Sanders	
Ft. Defiance at the Speedway Station	4:30		Speedway Gas Station Sanders, AZ	4:35	
Navajo Nation Museum East Parking	4:05		Houck Turn Off Exit 348 @ Ft. Courage gas pump	4:15	
Rock Springs Chapter House	3:45		Chees Store at Exit #351	4:05	
			I40 & 12 Window Rock Exit	3:55	

			3515 W. Hwy 66-Ace Truck Service Station	3:35	
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Rehoboth Christian School's transportation department will be delivering flash drives and materials needed for distance learning. We will be using RCS school vehicles, minivans and suburbans, marked with a Rehoboth sign to designate the vehicles. Please refer to the chart for approximate times that the drivers will be at each location.

Blessings,

Jonathon Terborg, Transportation Director
Transportation department
(505) 726-9622

Athletics



Spring Sports Cancelled - NMAA decided to cancel spring sports for MS and HS for the remainder of the school year due to the COVID-19. Our heart breaks for our student athletes and especially for our seniors. May we continue to keep perspective on life and what God is teaching us and challenging us at this time.

Summer Activities - We will continue to keep you updated on summer activities. NMAA and NMPED will be meeting at the beginning of May 2020 to discuss plans for summer in regards to camps, clinics, and team camps for sports.

Sports Physicals 2020-21: Packets for physicals for next year will be updated.. This packet will be used for next school year. Any physical completed after April 1, 2020 is good for the 2020-21 school year.

Workouts/Conditioning: A conditioning/strength workout is currently in the works for student-athletes for next year as they approach summer and fall. This is to help our athletes stay in shape and be ready for sports next year. Once ready, workouts will be emailed to students.

Adrian Pete, Athletic Director



2020-2021 Tuition Assistance Application

Please return this application to the administration building or email to admissions@rcsnm.org with your **2019 1040 tax documents for both parents/guardians.**

Parent/Guardian 1: Parent who claims dependents on tax form

I am the: Parent Guardian Email: _____

First Name: _____ M.I. _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

(monthly statements will be sent here, if not on FACTS)

Have you had a significant change of income from your 2019 1040 tax form and your current pay?

Yes No

If yes, please explain the significant change:

Parent/Guardian 2: Will parent 2 also be financially responsible for tuition? Yes No

I am the: Parent Guardian If no, please explain below why Parent 2 will not contribution to tuition

First Name: _____ M.I. _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

address same as parent 1 (monthly statements will be sent here, if not on FACTS)

Email: _____

Have you had a significant change of income from your 2019 1040 tax form and your current pay?

Yes No

If yes, please explain the significant change:

If parent 2 is not be contributing to tuition, please explain:

Other Family/Friends Contributions:

Will you be receiving assistance from other family or friends? Yes No

If yes, please state below who we should be receiving tuition payment from, how much will be paid, and how often.



2020-2021 Tuition Assistance Application

List all children in your household who you are financially responsible under 18 years of age. (even those not attending Rehoboth)

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Relation</u>	<u>School attending</u>	<u>Grade</u>

Non-Taxable Income/ Other Income & Benefits (Income not reported in your 1040)

Social Security benefits: \$ _____ Housing & other living allowance: \$ _____
 Child Support: \$ _____ Other non-taxable income: \$ _____
 Workers Compensation: \$ _____ **TOTAL: \$ _____**

Final Authorization

Please initial below that you understand the following tuition assistance policy related to the tuition assistance application:

_____ RCS has the right to deny Tuition Assistance until all sources of income are verified, whether or not one or both of the parents are participating in the payment of tuition

_____ For Tuition Assistance applicants who do not file income tax, alternative verification of income will be required.

_____ Tuition Assistance is based on both parents' or guardians' income, regardless of marital status. Documentation to be submitted with the application include the first and signature page of the personal income tax return (1040, or 1040A) listing both parents' income (unless if one or both are deceased). **All students listed as a family must be included on the 1040 as dependents in order to qualify for Tuition Assistance.** If student is listed on another 1040, we require the collection of that 1040 and calculate that as part of the family income. Both living parents (birth, adoptive, or step), if applicable, or both legal guardians, if applicable, will show income in this calculation.

By signing below, I certify that the above information is true and that all income is reported. Unreported income may result in denial of tuition assistance.

Parent 1 Signature Date

Parent 2 Signature Date