

Dear Parents,

During the 2019 legislative session, the NM State Legislature and Governor Lujan-Grisham passed and signed into law HB 431, which includes changes to state law that requires changes to our volunteer processes for Rio Rancho Public Schools.

This new statute extends to school volunteers the requirement already in place for employees and contractors that individuals working in the schools complete an FBI background check. This is a more thorough background check than those previously required of volunteers. With the statutory change, all volunteers will need to apply for an FBI background check starting June 14, 2019.

Volunteer events and functions that require a FBI background check through Rio Rancho Public Schools include but are not limited to: assisting with athletic events and practices, PTA, booster clubs, volunteers assisting with band, orchestra, chorus, dance, and drama, cafeteria helpers, classroom helpers, concessions, field trip chaperones, library helpers, media room helpers, Mentor Program, observers, office helpers, etc. -- in short, any activity that may involve contact with students.

Please click [HERE](#) to complete the online portion of the volunteer application. There is a packet at the end of the application that needs to be printed, completed and hand delivered or mailed to the District Office. A review of the packet will be completed prior to processing. There is a \$44 non-refundable fee which can be paid online or by phone; instructions are included in the packet. Your FBI background check will be good for 2 years from the date of approval.

If you have already completed an FBI background check through Rio Rancho Public Schools, please disregard this message. If you are curious as to your volunteer status or the expiration date, please contact the school in which your student attends.

Applications can take up to 10 business days to process during peak season. Please make sure to turn in applications with this timeline in mind.

We appreciate your cooperation; we understand that this legislative change can potentially be a hardship for some volunteers. RRPS also understands that the Legislation and the Governor are acting in the interest of keeping our students, teachers, and school staff safe while they are on school campuses or participating in school activities. Thank you for your understanding and continued commitment, and especially for your willingness to support our students by helping out in our schools.

Respectfully,

April Edwards
Volunteer Coordinator
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