



Riverside Traditional Elementary School

A STEM² School Where We Strive for Excellence in Education!

1414 S. 51st Ave,
Phoenix AZ 85043
P: (602) 272-1339
F: (602) 477-8921

July 14, 2025

Hello RTS Team,

Welcome to the 2025–2026 school year at Riverside Traditional School! I hope your family has enjoyed a safe, restful summer break. My name is Jonathon Gonzalez, and I am honored to introduce myself as your new principal.

In this letter, you will find:

- A welcome from the principal
- New staff joining the Riverside Traditional School team
- Our Vision, Mission, and Goals
- Meet the Teacher Night & Annual Title I Presentation
- Our bell schedule & first day of school details
- How we communicate with families
- Transportation and parent/student pick-up cards
- Parent pick-up procedures and traffic reminders
- Student ID safety
- An overview of our 4Bs and Pride Ticket rewards
- Our student recognition assemblies and awards
- Dress code highlights
- School uniform vendor
- Bus transportation schedule

A Welcome from the Principal

My journey in our Riverside Elementary School District No.2 began six years ago right here at Riverside Traditional School as a fourth-grade teacher. During my time, I served as a grade-level team leader. After my time at Riverside Traditional School, I had the opportunity to teach sixth-grade math at King's Ridge Preparatory Academy, where I was also team leader and Math Department Chair. Most recently, I had the privilege of serving as the Dean of Students, an experience that strengthened my skills by supporting students, building behavior systems, and cultivating a strong school culture. I am especially proud of the work I did partnering with parents, families, and staff to build a strong, caring school culture together.

Now, I'm proud to bring this experience and passion back to Riverside Traditional School. This community welcomed me when I moved to Phoenix, it has given me so much as an educator and leader. I am grateful for the opportunities I have had here and I am committed to continuing to serve our students, families and support my staff.

Jonathon Gonzalez, Principal
Elizabeth Baez, STEM Instructional Coach
Stephanie Arellano, Administrative Assistant
Sonia Castaneda, Registrar

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As your principal, you can expect me to be visible, approachable, and committed to working together with you. I will always listen to your concerns, communicate openly, and support our students, staff, and families every step of the way. My goal is to help every child feel safe, valued, and ready to learn each day, while we work together to improve student achievement and continue the community events that strengthen our relationship and school pride.

New Staff Joining the Riverside Traditional School Team

I'm excited to welcome our new Riverside Traditional School team members this year:

- Ms. Elizabeth Baez, our new STEM Coach.
- Ms. Stephanie Arellano Cortes, our new Administrative Assistant.
- Ms. Charity Cunanan, returning as our PreK SC teacher.
- Ms. Melissa Caschetta, our new 2nd–4th Resource teacher.
- Ms. Erika Amaya, our new 2nd grade teacher.
- Ms. Aida Valenzuela, our new 3rd grade teacher.
- Ms. Dayana Perez, our new 4th grade teacher.
- Ms. Leondina Garrett, our new 4th grade teacher.
- Ms. Brianna Mata, our new PE/Wellness Paraprofessional.

Our Vision, Mission, and Goals

We envision Riverside Traditional School to be known as a top STEM² school with high caliber rigorous STEM² curriculum that empowers students to be critical thinkers, innovators and self-directed learners through 21st Century skills.

Our mission is clear: Riverside Traditional School will be a student-centered school with strong ties to our families and community. Riverside Traditional School teachers and staff will dedicate themselves to the creation of a school culture that promotes the academic, emotional, and social development of every student.

Our goals remain the same:

- Create an A+ school through a strong, rigorous academic STEM² curriculum
- Encourage excellent behaviors and academic achievements through the use of positive reinforcements
- Collaborate as a staff and with members of the community, to provide all students with a quality education.





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Meet the Teacher Night & Annual Title I Presentation

We look forward to seeing you at Meet the Teacher Night on Thursday, July 24 from 4:00–6:00 p.m. We will begin together in the cafeteria with our Annual Title I Presentation, first day of school information, and important family updates. After the presentation, you will visit your child's classroom and meet their teacher, a perfect chance to practice drop-off routines and get ready for a strong start. At Meet the Teacher Night, you will also be provided with our annual parent documents, including the student handbook and required forms that must be read, acknowledged, and signed. If you are not able to attend, these items will be sent home with your child on the first day of school for you to complete and return.

Our Bell Schedule

Riverside Traditional School					
					
Bell Schedule					
Students are to arrive by 7:45 a.m. to provide them with ample time to have breakfast in the classroom.					
Students will be directed to the office after 8:00 a.m. The late bell rings at 8:00 a.m.					
Kinder, 1st and 2nd Grade 8:00am-2:00pm Wednesdays Early Release 11:30am					
3rd and 4th Grade 8:00am-3:00pm Wednesdays Early Release 12:00pm					
Self-Contained Pre-k, 2 sessions: AM 8:00-11:00 and PM 12:00-3:00. K-4th Grade Self Contained 8:00am-2:00pm Wednesdays Early Release 11:30am					
Grade	Special Classes	Lunch Time	PM Dismissal (Mon. Tues. Thurs. and Fri.)	Lunch Time (Wednesdays or Short Days)	PM Dismissal (Wednesdays or Short Days)
PreK AM	TBD by Teacher	NA	11:00 a.m.	NA	NA
PreK PM	TBD by Teacher	NA	3:00 p.m.	NA	NA
K-1 Self-Contained	9:05-10:00	10:40-11:20	2:00 p.m.	10:00-10:30	11:30 a.m.
2-4 Self-Contained	Follow grade specials	11:25-12:05 (Follow 2nd)	2:00 p.m.	10:30-11:00	11:30 a.m.
Kinder	9:05-9:45	10:40-11:20	2:00 p.m.	10:00-10:30	11:30 a.m.
1st Grade	8:20-9:00	11:25-12:05	2:00 p.m.	10:30-11:00	11:30 a.m.
2nd Grade	1:05-1:45	11:25-12:05	2:00 p.m.	10:30-11:00	11:30 a.m.
3rd Grade	9:50-10:30	11:55-12:35	3:00 p.m.	11:00-11:30	12:00 p.m.
4th Grade	2:05-2:45	12:20-1:00	3:00 p.m.	11:00-11:30	12:00 p.m.

Jonathon Gonzalez, Principal
Elizabeth Baez, STEM Instructional Coach
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First Day of School and Meals

On the first day of school, parents will say goodbye at the entrance. Walking students to classrooms will not be allowed. We understand that, especially for our Kindergarten families, this is a special milestone. To help your child build independence and adjust smoothly, Kinder students will also enter on their own and be guided by staff to their classroom. Please start having these conversations with your child now and use Meet the Teacher Night to practice how this will work.

- Student drop-off begins at 7:15 a.m. Please do not drop off students before 7:15 a.m.
- All students will gather in the cafeteria when they arrive, sit in their homeroom section, and follow our 4Bs while waiting for their homeroom teacher.
- We will have a welcome assembly before they proceed to their homeroom.
- Breakfast and lunch will continue to be provided free for all students every day.
- Students will begin walking to class at 7:45 a.m.
- Students arriving after 8:00 a.m. are considered late and must get a pass from the front office.
- The first day of school is Monday, July 28.

How We Communicate with Families

Strong communication is key to student success. RTS will keep you informed through:

- ClassDojo: Teachers will share a new ClassDojo code for their homeroom during Meet the Teacher Night so you can connect right away. Please join to stay updated on class news and reminders.
- Phone Calls & Emails: For important updates and concerns.
- Monthly Newsletters: With school-wide news, dates, and celebrations.
- School Website & Flyers: For announcements and upcoming events.

Please make sure your phone and email are current and reach out to the front office if you need help connecting to ClassDojo.





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Transportation & Parent/Student Pick-Up Cards

During Meet the Teacher Night, you will receive two student cards with your child's name, grade, and homeroom teacher. These cards are required for daily pick-up and bus dismissal for safety:

- Parent Pick-Up: Display the card on your dashboard at pick-up so staff can call your child by radio. If you do not have your card, you must pick up your child at the front office or pick up the student card at the front office before getting in the pick-up line at the front of the cafeteria. Please make sure you have your student card with you every day to help make pick-up smooth and fast for everyone.
- Bus Riders:
 - 1st–4th grade students may get off the bus and walk home or to your car.
 - Kindergarten students must be released to an adult with the student card. You must show the card to the bus driver if you do not have it, your child will be returned to the school and must be picked up at the front office. If you wait in your car, please get out and walk to the bus door.
 - If a family member is picking up your child, they must have the student card with them. If no card is shown, your child will not be released from the bus and will be returned to the school office for safety.

If you are not able to attend Meet the Teacher Night, you may pick up your student cards at the front office on Friday, July 25 from 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. or on the first day of school, Monday, July 28, starting at 7:00 a.m., or before dismissal time.

Important: If you do not have your student/parent card, your Kindergarten student will not be released at the bus stop they will be brought back to the school office for you to pick up in person. For car pick-up, students will not be released from the pick-up line if you do not have your card. You must go to the office first to pick it up before getting in line at the front of the cafeteria.

Thank you for helping us follow these procedures to ensure that all students arrive home safely every day and make dismissal smooth for all Riverside Traditional School families.





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Parent Pick-Up Procedures & Traffic Reminders

To keep dismissal smooth and safe for everyone:

- All parents using the drive-through pick-up must display their student pick-up card clearly on the dashboard.
- A staff member will call for your child and signal you when your child is walking to your car.
- Students will enter vehicles from the passenger side (right side) only.
- If you prefer, you may park and walk your child to or from the pedestrian crossing area near the office.
- Parents must remain in their vehicle when using the drive-through lane please do not park or leave vehicles unattended in the pick-up line.

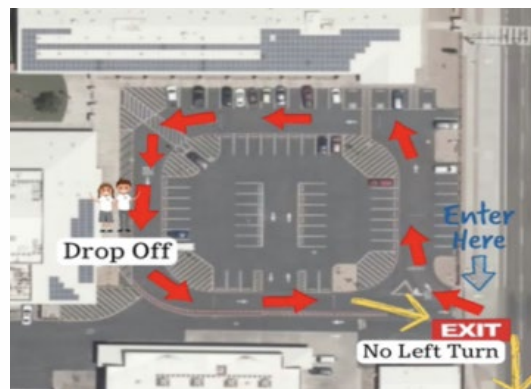
Pick-Up Times:

- Pre-School AM Session: 11:00 a.m.
- Pre-School PM Session, Kindergarten–2nd Grade, Self-Contained: 2:50 p.m.
- 3rd–4th Grades: 2:50 p.m.

Traffic Flow:

- Enter campus through the main entrance and turn right.
- Drive up to the far end of the cafeteria pick-up zone.
- If the car in front of you is still waiting, you may use the left lane to exit once your child is safely in the car.
- For everyone's safety, no left turns when exiting the campus during 7:00–8:00 a.m. and 1:30–3:30 p.m.
- After pick-up, please pull forward immediately to keep the line moving smoothly.

If you do not have your student card at pick-up, you must park and go to the front office to get a temporary pass before returning to the line. Please help us avoid delays by having your card ready every day.





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Student ID Safety

All RTS students will receive their official student ID on our first picture day, scheduled for August 8, 2025 during school hours.

Each student will also be given a colored lanyard one that matches their bus assignment (if they ride the bus) or one for parent pick-up and drop-off.

Student IDs are part of our school dress code and must be with students at all times. Students may keep their ID tied securely to their backpack if they prefer, but IDs must be brought to school every day.

Thank you for helping us keep students safe and make daily dismissal smooth and efficient.

Our 4Bs & Pride Ticket Rewards

At RTS, we teach and reinforce our four core behaviors every day:

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe
- Be Kind

To encourage and reward positive behavior, students can earn RTS Pride Tickets for following the 4Bs. Pride Tickets can be exchanged for fun rewards throughout the year.

Student Recognition Assemblies & Awards

Riverside Traditional School prides itself on recognizing our students for both academic achievements and character as proud RTS Pride members. This year, we will continue to celebrate our students through school-wide assemblies and special awards ceremonies at the end of each trimester.

Some of the awards your child may earn include:

- SUPERINTENDENT'S LIST – For students selected by teachers who exceed expectations in academics, behavior, attitude, and character. These students are recognized at an RESD Governing Board meeting.
- PRINCIPAL'S LIST – For students who earn all A's on their end-of-trimester report card.
- HONOR ROLL – For students who earn all A's and B's on their end-of-trimester report card.





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- THE 4Bs STUDENT OF THE MONTH – One student each month from each class who exemplifies being Respectful, Responsible, Safe, and Kind.
- PERFECT ATTENDANCE – Monthly attendance recognition alongside Student of the Month.
- Other Possible Awards – State Assessment (AASA & AZELLA), iReady Math & Reading Growth, RESD Benchmark Growth, DIBELS Growth, and other special recognitions.

We are proud to recognize our students' hard work and great choices.

Dress Code Highlights

To keep students focused and safe, please remember:

- Tops: Solid red for grades 1–4, baby blue for Kindergarten. Collared, tucked in, with no logos except the school logo.
- Bottoms: Khaki pants, shorts, skirts, or jumpers. No jeans or denim.
- Sweaters/Jackets: Solid red, black, and gray colors only.
- Shoes: Closed-toe, closed-heel shoes only.
- Earrings: Girls may wear only one earring per ear, with earrings no larger or longer than the size of a quarter. No pierced jewelry may be worn by boys.
- Hair & Grooming: Hair must be a natural color only; no mohawks, designs, or unnatural colors. No writing on skin or clothing.

You will receive the Student Handbook with complete information about our dress code, infractions, and disciplinary actions. Please review the handbook carefully before signing and returning the acknowledgment form. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe, respectful learning environment for every student.

Bus Transportation Schedule

RESD#2 Bus Schedule 2025-2026

Please open the link below on our website for the most current information:

<https://www.resdonline.org/Transportation>





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School Uniform Vendor

Our school uniform vendor, Rapido Screen Printing, will be available on campus during the following times to help families purchase uniforms:

- Meet the Teacher Night: Thursday, July 24 from 4:00–6:00 p.m.
- Uniform Sales Day: Tuesday, July 29 from 2:00–3:30 p.m.

You may also visit their shop during business hours:

Monday to Friday, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

3334 W. Wilshire Dr., Ste. #42, Phoenix, AZ 85009

Cruz Sanchez: 602-689-9502

rapidoscreenprinting@hotmail.com

Important: They only accept cash.

We can't wait to see you on Thursday, July 24 for Meet the Teacher Night, let's have an outstanding year together!

Thank you for partnering with us to make this a wonderful year for every Riverside Traditional School student. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email me directly at 602-272-1339 or jgonzalez@resdonline.com.

Sincerely,

Jonathon Gonzalez

Principal, Riverside Traditional School





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Riverside Traditional Bus Schedules 2025/2026

School Times Kg, 1st, 2nd 8:00am-2:00pm 3rd & 4th 8:00am 3:00pm
(ER) Early Release Kg, 1st, 2nd 11:30am (ER) 3rd & 4th grades 12:00pm
Bus route times are approximate. Please arrive 10 minutes prior.

Route 1 Blue		Route 2 Red		Route 3 Green		Route 4 Orange	
Morning P/U	K-4 th grade	Morning P/U	K-4 th grades	Morning P/U	K-4 th grades	Morning P/U	K-4 th grades
Depart Riverside	7:00am	Depart Riverside	7:05am	Depart Riverside	7:00am	Depart Riverside	7:05am
63 rd ave/Williams	7:10am	40 th /Maricopa	7:10am	58 th ave./Encinas LN.	7:05am	55 th ave/Southgate	7:10am
63 rd ave./Florence	7:11am	40 th /Tonto	7:11am	58 th Dr./ Illini St.	7:07am	52 nd ave/Elwood	7:13am
63 rd ave/ Crown King	7:12am	40 th / Hadley	7:12am	64 Lane/ Broadway	7:10am	Return to RTS	7:20am
63 rd ave/ Pioneer	7:13am	40 th / Sherman	7:13am	65 th ave/ Broadway	7:11am	60 th ave/Wood	7:30am
63 rd ave/ Illini st. Lennar Com.	7:14am	40 th / Grant	7:14am	66 th ave /Elwood	7:15am	60 th ave/Warner	7:35am
63 rd ave/Pueblo	7:16am	40 th / Lincoln	7:15am	66 th ave/Pioneer	7:17am	Return to RTS	7:43am
63 rd ave/ Jones	7:17am	Return to RTS	7:22am	65 th Dr./ Crown Kings	7:19am		
63 rd ave/ Raymond	7:18am			66 th ave /Williams	7:22am		
Return to RTS	7:28am			65 Ln /Cordes	7:24am		
				65 th ave./Winslow	7:26am		
				64 th ave ./Winslow	7:28am		
				Return to RTS	7:38am		
Route 1 Blue Afternoon kg,1 st ,2 nd grades Depart 2:00pm		Route 2 Red Afternoon kg,1 st ,2 nd grades Depart 2:00pm		Routes 3 Afternoon kg,1 st , 2 nd grades Depart 2:00pm		Routes 4 Afternoon kg,1 st , 2 nd grades Depart 2:00pm	
58 th ave / Encinas LN.	2:05pm ER 11:35am	40 th /Maricopa	2:10pm ER 11:40am	64 Lane/ Broadway	2:06pm ER 11:36am	55ave/Southgate	2:07pm ER11:37am
58 th Dr./ Illini St.	2:07pm ER 11:37am	40 th /Tonto	2:11pm ER 11:41am	65 ave/ Broadway	2:07pm ER 11:37am	52 ave/Elwood	2:09pm ER11:39am
63ave/Williams	2:10pm ER 11:40am	40 th / Hadley	2:12pm ER 11:42am	66 ave /Elwood	2:09pm ER11:39am	60 th ave/Wood	2:12pm ER11:42am
63ave. / Florence	2:11pm ER 11:41am	40 th / Sherman	2:13pm ER 11:43am	66 ave/Pioneer	2:10pm ER11:40am	60 th ave/Warne	2:14pm ER11:44am
63 ave/ Crown King	2:12pm ER 11:42am	40 th / Grant	2:14pm ER 11:44am	65 DR/Crown King	2:11pm ER11:41am		
63 ave/ Pioneer	2:13pm ER 11:43am	40 th / Lincoln	2:15pm ER 11:45am	66 ave /Williams	2:13pm ER11:43am		
63 ave/ Illini St.	2:14pm ER 11:44pm			65 Ln / Cordes	2:15pm ER11:45am		
63 ave/Pueblo	2:16pm ER 11:46am			65 th ave /Winslow	2:17pm ER11:47am		
63 ave/ Jones	2:17pm ER 11:47am			64 th ave/Winslow	2:19pm ER11:49am		
63 ave/ Raymond	2:18pm ER 11:48am						
Route 1 Blue Afternoon 3 rd & 4 th grades Depart 3:00pm		Route 2 Red Afternoon 3 rd & 4 th grade Depart 3:00pm		Route 3 Green Afternoon 3 rd and 4 th grades Depart 3:00pm		Route 4 Afternoon 3 rd and 4 th grades Depart 3:00pm	
58 th Dr./ Illini St.	3:05pm ER 12:05pm	40 th /Maricopa	3:10pm ER 12:10pm	64 Lane/ Broadway	3:06pm ER 12:06pm	55 ave/Southgate	3:07pm ER12:07pm
63 ave /Williams	3:08pm ER 12:08pm	40 th /Tonto	3:11pm ER 12:11pm	65 ave/ Broadway	3:07pm ER 12:07pm	52 ave/Elwood	3:09pm ER12:09pm
63ave / Florence	3:09pm ER 12:09pm	40 th / Hadley	3:12pm ER 12:12pm	66 ave /Elwood	3:09pm ER12:09pm	60 ave/Wood	3:12pm ER12:12pm
63 ave / Crown King	3:10pm ER 12:10pm	40 th / Sherman	3:13pm ER 12:13pm	66 ave /Pioneer	3:10pm ER12:10pm	60 ave/Warner	3:14pm ER12:14pm
63 ave/ Pioneer	3:11pm ER 12:11pm	40 th / Grant	3:14pm ER 12:14pm	65 Dr / Crown King	3:11pm ER12:11pm		
63 ave/ Illini St.	3:12pm ER 12:12pm	40 th / Lincoln	3:15pm ER 12:15pm	66 ave/Williams	3:13pm ER12:13pm		
63 ave/Pueblo	3:14pm ER 12:14pm			65 Ln /Cordes	3:15pm ER12:15pm		
63 ave / Jones	3:15pm ER 12:15pm			65 th ave /winslow	3:17pm ER12:17pm		
63 ave / Raymond	3:16pm ER 12:16pm			64 th ave/winslow	3:19pm ER12:19pm		

