Rio Americano High School
Site Strategic Plan
Three-Year Update

4540 American River Drive
Sacramento, California

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Site Overview:

Rio Americano High School is one of nine comprehensive high schools in the San Juan Unified School District. The school is located in the east suburbs of Sacramento. The school has a population of 1525, composed of 70% White, 13% Hispanic, 8% Asian, 4% African American and 5% other races. Eligibility for Free and Reduced Lunch Program is 17.1% of all students. The school has 28 English Learners (1.83%) and 84 redesignated fluent English speakers (R-FEP). Rio Americano High School (RAHS) has an Average Daily Attendance rate of 95.49%, down from 95.89% three years ago.

Rio offers a wide variety of programs to support student learning. The special education program serves 127 students (8.32%) by providing support to orthopedically/physically handicapped, SED, and learning-disabled students. There are three full time counselor positions provided to assist students in academic, personal, and career decisions. There are other student support structures such as Volunteers in College and Career Information (VICCI) that help to meet specific student needs.

The school has several academic programs offered to engage and motivate students to achieve. Core education classes include a range of programs that provide many opportunities for students. Special Education classes range from full inclusion to resource. College preparatory classes are offered to all students and include a requirement of four years of English, three and one half years of history and social science, two years of mathematics, two years of science, one year of visual and performing arts or one semester of art plus a full year of foreign language, two years of physical education and elective courses. Honors and Advanced Placement classes are available in English, U.S History, U.S. Government, World History, French, Band, Concert Band, Economics, Calculus AB and BC, Biology, Chemistry, French, and Spanish. AP courses are offered in 15 subject areas with 33% of the student body enrolled in one of the 28 sections of courses. The CIVITAS program is a political studies academy providing an accelerated four-year curriculum in the social sciences. Rio has 7 sections of the AVID program to support underrepresented students who have a desire to pursue post-secondary education. After school, credentialed teachers offer tutoring three days a week in core subjects. The school’s student activities program provides opportunity for academic competition in such areas as Mock Trial, Academic Decathlon, Speech and Debate, Science Bowl and Science Olympiad often times bringing home first place awards. The Student Government sponsors a variety of student clubs that serve social, creative, and community needs with the purpose of keeping students connected to their school. There are a variety of Career Technology Education classes with two ROP classes offered on campus. Rio has courses developed in student publications, Jazz Band, Concert Band, Drama, and Readers Theater that showcase student performances and products. The school is proud of its visual arts and graphic design program with courses offered in drawing and painting, ceramics, and web design.
Three-Year Cycle Review Process:

The Planning Team met on September 27, 2012 for a review of the developed site strategic plan that was put into place in May of 2010. The Planning Team made revisions to the mission statement, objectives and tactics.

Action teams took the revisions and developed new recommendations to be put into place by the site to improve the overall effectiveness of the school for students.

The school leadership team will ensure that steps are taken to put the recommendations in place. A reporting to the community on the attainment of the objectives will happen yearly.

Rio Americano High School Mission:

Rio Americano, a high school with proven academic excellence, will educate and inspire each student to succeed and meet the challenges of the future through innovative programs and college preparatory curriculum within a supportive, nurturing environment.

Rio Americano High School Objectives:

1. All students will acquire and apply 21st century skills such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, collaboration, and application of technology by their graduation date.

2. By 2017, at least 70% of all students in all subgroups will have completed A through G required courses.

3. Within three years there will be a 10 percent increase in the number of students who graduate with Advanced Placement and/or college credit.

4. All students, with staff support, will develop a sense of belonging to the Rio Americano community and will demonstrate character traits necessary to become contributing, responsible, and caring citizens.

5. We will decrease by 10% per year the number of 9th and 10th grade students not earning C’s or better.

Rio Americano Tactics to Meet Objectives:

1. We will continue to develop innovative programs, integrate technology, and apply student-centered instructional methods and data driven instruction and curriculum to meet 21st century expectations.
2. We will provide all students with the necessary support and interventions required for academic excellence and college preparedness in a collaborative environment while encouraging and empowering all students to become active participants in the Rio Americano community.

3. We will provide professional development to staff that aligns with district goals, is tailored to site needs and supports student acquisition of Common Core State Standards.

**Rio Americano Site Strategic Planning Team Accepted Actions for 2013-2016 Strategic Plan:**

**Action 1 for Tactic 3-**

Leadership Team will provide a more structured Collaboration Thursday schedule to address CCSS and School Improvement all Thursdays will require a sign in and some type of documentation of the meeting minutes:

- **First Thursday** – Departments develop formative and summative assessments tied to CCSS
- **Second Thursday** – Cross collaboration to develop interdepartmental lessons and or units along with creating school improvement teams to address outside evaluations
- **Third Thursday** – Departments use this time to develop PLC or subject specific groups to address best content area instruction practices for CCSS and develop specific subject goals for the department

**Action 2 for Tactic 3 –**

Leadership Team will provide Collaboration Thursday time on Fourth Thursdays to work on school initiatives tied to the mission statement:

- Writing across the curriculum
- Supporting at risk students
- Project Based Learning
- Connecting with Students
Action 3 for Tactic 3 –

Site integration team will be developed to integrate new teachers on the campus:

- Administration and Lead teachers will provide information and training to new site staff on Rio Americano educational expectations
- Orientation
- Mentors
- Peer Observations
- Website/Zangle training

Action 4 for Tactic 3 –

Rio Americano will provide district aligned staff development for all staff and release time centered on CCSS implementation, instructional practices and assessment literacy.

- In conjunction with the entire district HS staff
- Breakout sessions after keynote Speaker Myron Dueck

Action 1 for Tactic 2 –

Create a tutoring coordinator stipend position that implements the following:

- Organizes certificated tutors
- Organizes highly qualified student peer tutors
- Oversee a morning, lunch, and after school program
- Communicate tutoring opportunities to students
- Pursue grants with district grant writer guidance
- Communicate with webmaster and link teacher resources to tutoring webpage

Action 2 for Tactic 2 –

Create a web page, which is linked to tutoring resources, and communicate this to parents and students

Videos
Teacher review information

Outside resources

Action 3 for Tactic 2 –

Create a PDF that can be placed on the Rio Americano website that list teachers names and how they communicate homework to students, their preferred communication method, and how long it takes to get back to parents

Action 4 for Tactic 2 –

Create a family resource center and put together a committee to help decide what needs Rio Americano has and how they are to be offered by the center after talking with other schools who have gone through the process

Action 5 for Tactic 2 –

Create a home visitation program that focuses on 9th grade students the first year and builds on the number of students and grades we can visit each year

Secure funding
Secure volunteer teacher for the program to be paid by visit
Secure appropriate training for the teachers visiting homes
Identify what the visits would entail

Action 1 for Tactic 1 –

Leadership Team will provide Collaboration Thursday time on Fourth Thursday to integrate technology and use data to adjust curriculum and instruction to be student centered and meet 21st Century expectations for students:

Data Director review
Website uses
Classroom technology integration
Zangle review
Professional Learning Community (PLC) development to review data to make decisions for subjects and departments

Action 2 for Tactic 1 –
Site departments will look to work with other departments so we can have at least one cross-curricular class at each grade level

Example would be a New Media design class or pathway

Example would be a Fabricating and Engineering class or pathway

Creating a pathway would require a number of teachers working together with administration to identify appropriate classes and put them together in a sequence. We would then need to see if it could fit under some state or ROP program for appropriate funding.

**Measurements for the Goals:**

Goal 1 – Measure of Academic Performance Test (MAP Testing), Smarter Balanced testing results, AP testing results, CAHSEE, and site CCSS benchmark assessments

Goal 2 – A review of each year’s senior transcripts and enrollment in A through G courses

Goal 3 – A review of each year’s senior transcripts, number of sections of AP courses running, and number of high school students taking college level classes while still in high school

Goal 4 – The percentage of our subgroups participating in extra-curricular and intra-curricular programs, the usage of a family resource center, the number of students recognized at staff meetings or on the district or site website, the number of students we are able to visit with the a home visitation program, and all discipline data

Goal 5 – Grade attainment reports and GPA class calculation