



**Rancho Mirage High School
RACE Academy**

Parent/Student
Information
Handbook

2023 - 2024

From The RACE Academy Team

Dear Parents and Automotive Students,

Welcome to the RACE Academy program at Rancho Mirage High School. We are very glad that you will be joining us for a brand new school year!

As part of the RACE Academy, we all share the responsibility to support our students with the creative, intellectual, and critical thinking skills necessary for them to thrive within a very competitive industry. Students will interact with our business partners through internships and community events, engage with guest speakers, tour industry facilities and colleges, and attend job shadows and industry networking.

Again, welcome to RACE! We encourage you to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have. Please see the RACE Academy Team Contact Information page listed above. We look forward to meeting each and every one of you. Cheers to an amazing and rewarding new year!

Sincerely,
The RACE Academy Team

Mission Statement

The RMHS Rattler Automotive Careers in Education (RACE) program is a professional learning environment designed to foster full student potential through rigorous and relevant academics and work-based experience in order to empower, inspire, and prepare our students for post-graduate college or career paths in the automotive industry.

Our Vision

Our vision is to challenge students to a higher standard of learning in order to bridge academic pursuits, industry skills, and employability within the automotive field and beyond. The program will provide a solid foundation for students in auto shop safety, repair & maintenance, automotive engine theory, automotive accessory systems, transmission/suspension/braking, and communication with customers and employers. Community involvement through business partnerships provides our students with superior opportunities for real-world experience in internships and future success.

College of the Desert

RACE Academy

Dual Enrollment Sequence

All automotive courses are dual-enrolled with College of the Desert. Each student who successfully completes the enrollment application and passes a class shall receive college credit for each completed course. Conversely, if a student performs poorly it could have a negative effect on their college transcript and prospects for financial aid.

Auto 010- This course covers the fundamentals and basic knowledge of the automotive repair trade. It includes shop safety, hand tools, fasteners, shop math, and an overview of basic automotive systems.

Auto 012A- This course provides theory and hands-on experience in automotive steering and suspension systems, including theory of operation, service, diagnosis, and repair. The course includes the following topics: front and rear suspension types; steering systems; four-wheel alignment; shocks, struts; tires; and wheels.

Auto 013A - This course covers the fundamentals of the automotive repair trade for the braking system. It includes critical discussion, demonstrations and hands-on laboratory practice, shop safety, hand tools, hydraulic principles, shop math, brake system principles, system diagnosis and repair, basic electrical, wiring schematics, and electrical diagnosis.

Supplementary Courses: Auto 095A Work Experience and Auto 011B Automotive Electrical.

RACE Academy Academic and Behavior Expectations

Academic and behavioral expectations for the RACE Academy students are the same expectations found in the RMHS Handbook. Should violations of these expectations occur, students may be subject to probationary status or removal from the academy. Under probationary status, students will be required to participate in **additional intervention strategies** that may include, but are not limited to, any or all of the following:

- Probationary Contract Agreement
- Parent notification/Parent conference
- Counseling- through Administration, counselor, and/or RACE Team
- Restorative Justice- which may include community service hours
- Restitution

Additional intervention strategies will be determined on an individual basis and agreed upon by the RACE Team.

Academic Expectations:

ACADEMIC GRADES

Students are expected to demonstrate proficiency in all content areas in order to participate in Academy events. The minimum student requirements shall include:

- 2.0 GPA or higher on any quarterly progress report
- No more than one 'F' letter grade in any course on any quarterly progress report
- Grade check forms to be completed one week prior to events or field trips

**Please note: Students with a letter grade lower than 'C' in any course will be referred for intervention tutoring services with a designated subject area teacher.*

GRADUATION STOLE REQUIREMENTS (Seniors)

In order to earn a RACE stole at graduation, students must meet all of the following requirements:

- 2.0 overall GPA
- 3.0 GPA in the Automotive courses and no F's.
- Must complete one of the following during their time in the academy:
 - Internship (1 quarter/30 hours)
 - Completion of General Work Experience class (1 quarter)
 - Active Participation in RACE events including but not limited to: field trips; CTE showcases; RACE car show; Club Rush; 8th Grade Program Preview.

Field Trips and Industry Tours

Field trips and industry tours are considered extensions of the RACE Academy, thus academic and behavioral conduct codes apply to ALL field trips and site tours. All field trips and industry tours **must** begin and end **at the school site****.

*****Students not approved to participate in such events may NOT attend on their own accord. Please do NOT show up at the site, as consequences will apply.***

Students are required to be punctual when attending field trips and industry tours. Students may also be required to check in with supervisors as indicated during their time off-site. Check-in times are **NOT** optional and will result in consequences should a student be tardy.

Students are expected to display good manners and respect when attending field trips or industry tours. Behavior that violates RACE Academy or school rules will be documented and reported to the appropriate administrator, and consequences will be determined per the Code of Conduct Policy.

Disrespectful, insubordinate, and/or unsafe behavior on a field trip is unacceptable and may result in exclusion from future events, field trips, or tours. In severe cases, parents and/or guardians will be contacted and asked to arrange for their child to be picked up immediately.

RACE Administration and Team Contact Information

You may contact any of the RACE Administration or Team at any time by telephone via Rancho Mirage High School at (760) 202-6455 or individually by email as listed below:

Administrator:	Dr. Julio Omier	jomier@psusd.us
CTE Teacher/Coordinator:	Will Bodnar	wbodnar@psusd.us
RACE Counselor:	Claudia Garcia	cgarcia2@psusd.us
CTE Paraprofessional:	Nile Spiegel	nspiegel@psusd.us
Science Teacher (Physics):	Jamie McMillan	jmcmillan@psusd.us
Science Teacher (Chem):	Felipe Vega	fvega1@psusd.us
Math Teacher (MRWC):	Kaitlin Giacalone	kgiacalone@psusd.us
Math Teacher (IM 2):	Carlos Papp	cpapp@psusd.us
English Teacher (11th):	Alexandra Monson	amonson@psusd.us
English Teacher (10th):	Joshua Custer	jcuster1@psusd.us
U.S History Teacher:	Laura Hicks	Lhicks@psusd.us
College & Career Specialist:	Yvonne Henderson	yhenderson@psusd.us
Work Based Learning:	Jeff Kabel	jkabel1@psusd.us
Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction:	Deanna Keuilian	dkeuilian@psusd.us

Please let us know when you have any questions or concerns. We are here to work together to support the success of our students.

Business and Community Partners

Below is a list of our local business and community partners. Through their support, our RACE Academy program is able to provide networking, event coordination, internships, and scholarship opportunities for our students.

AutoWorxs- Cathedral City
AutoZone- Cathedral City
BMW of Palm Springs- Palm Springs
Ben Clymer's: The Bodyshop - Palm Desert
CarMax- Palm Desert
Davies Automotive-Cathedral City
Discount Tire Center- Cathedral City
Ferrari of Rancho Mirage
Palm Springs Nissan-Cathedral City
Grand Prix: Car Wash & Auto Detail-Palm Desert
Jessup Auto Plaza- Cathedral City
Meineke Car Care Center- Cathedral City
Palm Springs Hyundai-Palm Springs
Palm Springs KIA- Cathedral City
Palm Springs Motors (Ford)- Palm Springs
Pep Boys- Cathedral City
Schultz Off-Road - Palm Desert
Toyota/Honda of The Desert- Cathedral City
UTI: Universal Technical Institute- Rancho Cucamonga
College of the Desert (C.O.D.)

Acknowledgement of Receipt of Handbook
RACE Academy
2023/2024

I hereby acknowledge that I have received and reviewed the RACE Academy Parent/Student Information Handbook for the 2023/2024 school year.

I agree to abide by the expectations and stipulations presented within the academy guidelines.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Must be returned before a student can participate in any RACE Academy Events