ROCKY RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

STUDENT AND PARENT HANDBOOK 2026-2027

Rocky River
CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Caring · Exceptional · Competitive

This Handbook replaces all prior handbooks and other prior written material provided on the same subjects. This Handbook does not equate to an irrevocable contractual commitment to the student, but only reflects the current status of the Board's policies and the School's rules. If any of the policies or administrative guidelines referenced herein are revised, the language in the most current policy or administrative guideline prevails. Copies of current Board policies and administrative guidelines are available on the District's website.

ROCKY RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Rocky River City School District

STRATEGIC PLAN

2024-2027

Our Mission

Globally Competitive
Exceptional Opportunities
Caring Environment
Successful Students

Beliefs

WE BELIEVE...

- Students are the heart of our purpose.
- Student success requires a partnership among family, school, and community.
- A Rocky River education empowers values, inspires curiosity, and encourages talents that lead to success.
- High expectations lead to high achievement.
- Lifelong learners thrive as they embrace the changing global society.

An exceptional school district demonstrates all of the above.

Goals and Action Plans

COMMUNICATIONS

Effective communication reaches all stakeholders.

1. Clear, timely, and transparent communications about the student and staff achievements, district information, and critical issues are delivered.
2. Updates about the strategic plan are communicated and accessible to stakeholders.
3. Internal communication platforms and practices provide staff with information necessary to deliver exceptional student services.
4. Expanded community engagement provides opportunities to share information and receive input from stakeholders.

CULTURE

The environment for Rr staff promotes them being their best for Rr students.

1. Staff are included in designing processes to build trust and promote the sharing of feedback.
2. A clear, explicit, and well-communicated process is in place for our staff and students to report concerns.
3. Recognition systems are in place that celebrate the dedication and achievements of our staff and students.

FACILITIES

Improve and maintain facilities and infrastructure that support our mission.

1. Safety and security measures are dynamic and constantly evaluated to ensure the well-being of our students and staff.
2. Facilities and infrastructure support a successful student experience.
3. An updated, comprehensive facilities master plan is in place.

FINANCE

Responsible and transparent stewardship of district finances to support our mission.

1. Alternative revenue sources supplement traditional funding sources.
2. Financial practices and planning are in place to support the goals of this plan.
3. Financial practices and planning include operational efficiencies and cost containment efforts, as well as legislative advocacy efforts, to help maximize levy cycles.
4. Dissemination of finance-specific information to all stakeholders supports the communication goal of this plan.

Strategic Objectives

- All students will engage in contemporary, globally competitive curricular and co-curricular programs of excellence.
- All students will achieve their educational goals incorporating the highest international standards.
- All students will participate in a student-centered environment that addresses educational, social, and emotional needs.
- All students will learn through lessons and experience that communication is open, sincere, timely, and responsive.
- All students will attend schools that are state-of-the-art facilities.
- All students will learn in an environment that is technologically competitive on a global level.

STAFF

Recruit, hire, retain, develop, and support a high-quality staff.

1. Hiring practices across all departments include internal stakeholders.
2. Best practices are used to recruit and retain a highly qualified and diverse district staff.
3. Comprehensive systems are in place that ensure all staff members have an awareness of expectations of the highest caliber of ethical behavior and professional standards.
4. High-quality professional development provides staff opportunities to be the best at what they do for the organization.
5. Systems that solicit and integrate the input of internal stakeholders are in place to continually evaluate the organization's practices.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Deliver an exceptional student experience in curriculum and instruction, extracurricular activities, and support services.

1. Instruction and supports are in place that foster each student's academic success and personal well-being.
2. A consistent system is in place that promotes the growth and development of students and reinforces positive behavior and respectful interactions with others.
3. Curriculum and academic options are continuously reviewed and align with student interests, emerging job markets, and life skills development.
4. Clearly defined and communicated opportunities allow students to make informed choices about their journey throughout RRCSD and beyond.
5. Extracurricular programs exist to enhance the student experience and are regularly reviewed to ensure alignment to student interests.
6. A broad selection of nutritious food choices is available.
7. Students develop skills to use technology and be responsible digital citizens in a rapidly changing environment of emerging technology.

TECHNOLOGY

Maintain technology resources and infrastructure that support our mission.

1. Instructional technology elevates the student experience and facilitates effective teaching practices.
2. Cybersecurity policies and practices are dynamic, explicit, and clearly communicated to protect organization systems, applications, devices, data, and financial assets.

ABSENCE/ATTENDANCE

The educational program offered by this District is predicated upon the presence of the student at school. Regular school attendance is essential for the educational development of students. It is also essential for the continuity of instruction and interaction between teachers and students. Attendance is required of all students enrolled in the schools during the days and hours that school is in session.

A parent/guardian must call the attendance office at 440-356-6873 each day that a student is absent. If unable to call, parents are expected to write notes covering the days of absence.

Notification of parents/guardians: In order to assure regular attendance in school, it is our policy to call the home of each absentee to verify the student's absence. The District reserves the right to investigate the cause of each single absence or prolonged absence.

Students will be marked "absent unexcused" if notes or other documentation is not presented upon their return. Parents have 24 hours after the absence occurs to provide documentation for the absence; otherwise, the absence will be deemed "absent unexcused."

There are two (2) types of absences at Rocky River High/Middle School. They are:

1. Absent Excused
2. Absent Unexcused

Excused Absence: An absence of a student from school or class for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness
2. Illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child
3. Quarantine of the home
4. Death in the family
5. Necessary work at the home due to absence or incapacity of parent(s) / guardian
6. Observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday
7. Out-of-state travel (up to a maximum twenty-four (24) hours per year that the student's school is open for instruction to participate in a district approved enrichment or extracurricular activity
8. Such good cause as may be acceptable to the Superintendent
9. Medically necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 5751
10. Service as a precinct officer at a primary, special or general election

Absence shall include full days of absence, partial days of absence, and any hours missed due to cut classes or other unauthorized absence from school.

Regardless of the number of hours or days of excused absence, school administration may require written documentation or other information to verify whether a student's absence qualifies as Absent Excused for any of the permitted reasons addressed above.

In all cases where a student reaches ten (10) days of excused absence in any school year or the equivalent number of hours of excused absence in any school year, school administration shall require written documentation or other information to verify whether a student's absence qualifies as Absent Excused for any of the permitted reasons addressed above.

If a parent/guardian fails to submit promptly any written documentation or other information requested by school administration, the student's absence will be deemed to be Absent Unexcused.

RRMS currently tracks all absences and when absent 45 hours for excused or unexcused absences notification is triggered. RRMS sends written notification when a student reaches 45 hours.

When a student is excessively absent from school, school administration requires absences to be reported to the school office each day the student misses school, provide a note upon his/her return to school, as well as provide the appropriate medical documentation to the school for missed days due to medical reasons.

Planned Absence: Planned absence means an absence due to a set of circumstances judged by the school administration to constitute a good and sufficient cause for absence from school. Reasons for such absence may include accompanying parents on a trip, participation in non-school athletic events, family matters out-of-town, college visitation or other trips approved by the parent. Parents/guardians must submit the online Google form for a planned absence five days prior to the absence.

In order for a planned absence to be considered an Absent Excused, a student must first:

- **a.** Notify the school administration in writing five school days in advance of the vacation through the planned absence form.
- **b.** Obtain the signature of classroom teachers on the form and obtain all assignments from each teacher, unless posted online and/or Grade Book.
- **c.** All work must be made up.
- **d.** A student not complying with the aforementioned policies may receive failing grades.

Unexcused Absence: Any absence of a student from school (full or partial days) that does not meet the criteria for Absent Excused.

Out-of-school suspension will be treated as Absent Unexcused.

Since the inception of Ohio House Bill 410, a student is considered to have excessive absences when:

- **a.** Absent 38 or more hours in one school month with or without a legitimate excuse; or
- **b.** Absent 65 or more hours in one school year with or without a legitimate excuse.

A student is considered habitually truant if the student is absent without a legitimate excuse:

- **a.** 30 or more consecutive hours of school this month
- **b.** 42 or more hours this month
- **c.** 72 hours or more this year

House Bill 410 requires Rocky River City School District to create an intervention plan for the parent/guardian and student to assist the family in improving school attendance. Discussions will focus on improving school attendance and to outline the District's actions going forward should attendance not improve.

General Restrictions: Students who are absent from school due to illness but are seen in or around the school or in the community during the school day may have their absence marked as an Unexcused Absence. If a student is too ill to come to school, he/she should be at home.

Make-Up Privileges: Students whose absences are deemed either Absent Excused or Absent Unexcused will have the opportunity to make-up all missed class assignments, examinations, quizzes and/or tests. The student shall have the number of days of absence to make-up missed class assignments, examinations, quizzes and/or tests. Work not completed during that time period will not be eligible for subsequent make-up or evaluation. On his/her first day back to school after an Absent Excused or Absent Unexcused the student must contact his/her teachers in each course for make-up of missed class assignments, examinations, quizzes and/or tests.

Make-up Procedures for Excused Absences: Upon your return to school or while you are absent, check GradeBook/ online and teacher/team websites to secure any missed assignments or tests.

Many teachers post their assignments and grades on GradeBook or Canvas. Although your Plan Book should be the main source of recording homework assignments, please consult GradeBook/Canvas and teacher/team websites. GradeBook/ Canvas can be accessed through the school web site.

Absence due to Student's Chronic Condition: Students are advised that if there is a chronic physical condition that will cause an unusual number of days of absence, this circumstance must be on file in the school office in the form of a note signed by a physician.

On the third consecutive day of a chronic absence, a student's homework assignments may be requested by calling the Counseling Office at 356-6875, before 8:00 a.m. This allows the time needed for the assignments to be collected from the teachers and be made available by 3:15 p.m. in the main office area.

SCHOOL TRUANCY

Any student leaving the building without permission will be considered "out of the building - unauthorized" and/or truant. A student leaving the building for a legitimate reason but without permission will have the absence marked as unexcused.

A student will be deemed "habitually truant" if the student is Absent Unexcused for:

1. 30 consecutive hours of instruction or
2. 42 hours of instruction during one calendar month or
3. 72 hours of instruction during one school year.

The parent/s and/or legal guardian of a student who is deemed "habitually truant" will be required to comply with school adopted policies and procedures to address the student's truant behavior. In each case, reasonable and meaningful attempts will be made by the school to notify and engage the student and parents in resolving the truant behavior.

If a student is habitually truant and the student's parent/legal guardian failed to cause the student to resume attendance, the Superintendent will file a complaint with the Juvenile Court and/or take other appropriate intervention actions as set forth in Board policy.

School or Class Truancy: Credit for missed assignments may be given to a student who is deemed habitually truant at the discretion of the administration.

NOTE: Students who are tardy or missing from class for 20 minutes or more without a legitimate excuse will have this count as an "absence unexcused" from class.

ACADEMIC ACCELERATION

The district recognizes appropriate use of accelerated learning may be required for some students who demonstrate remarkable performance. Procedures for evaluating these students for possible accelerated placement are delineated in Administrative Guideline 5408. Contact the school counselor for further information.

ACADEMIC GRADES

Report cards are posted online after each grading period. Marks are given in performance, effort, and conduct. Interim reports are prepared and posted online at the midpoint of each grading period for those students who are failing or who are achieving significantly below expectations.

Grading: Grades are quantitative statements reflecting instructor assessment of student performance. Grades represent the degree of mastery in the prescribed curriculum for a given content area or course at a given point in time in a student's educational development. Measurement of a student's performance provides a means for educators to communicate with students and parents. Grades reflect academic achievement, not necessarily ability. Assessment is a daily function so feedback, both written and verbal, is constant. Components include authentic assessments, tests, class work, homework, and class participation.

Students' will receive grades of A, B, C, D, (including pluses and minuses) or F. An "I" grade designates that the work required for the class has not been completed, while an "EX" grade is given when a student has been excused from taking the class. Scholastic grades are interpreted as follows:

A+	=	98% - 100% (or more)	D+	=	67% - 69%
A	=	93% - 97%	D	=	63% - 66%
A-	=	90% - 92%	D-	=	60% - 62%
B+	=	87% - 89%	F	=	0% - 59%
B	=	83% - 86%	I	=	Incomplete (must be changed within
B-	=	80% - 82%			2 weeks after the grading period ends)
C+	=	77% - 79%	P	=	Passing (is issued for courses that do not have

C = 73% - 76%

C- = 70% - 72%

a credit value or with administrative approval)

EX = Excused/Exempt from taking the class

Grade Point Average: Grade Point Average is calculated only for high school credit courses based on quarterly credit and letter grade earned and will post to the report card.

Conduct: The conduct mark represents the general behavior observed. This will include cooperation, courtesy and compliance with school and classroom rules within the teacher's jurisdiction. They reflect the philosophy of those who develop them and work to maintain them. We have a responsibility to expect a type of behavior that shows consideration for others, indicates respect for property, and displays a willingness to help make our school a better place in which to live and learn.

These are general guidelines that teachers may use when giving conduct.

- C 1: (model student) leads, asks complex questions, independent problem solver
- C 2: (responsive student) seldom requires redirected focus; rare off-task decisions do not affect grade • C 3: (choices affect his/her learning process) makes others wait, struggles with listening to directions; asks repeated questions; regular redirection; requires seat reassignment to maintain focus or control
- C 4: (choices affect grades & others) practices no/little success behaviors; requires removal from class due to disruption of the learning process

Marks of "3" and "4" for conduct indicate a student's behavior is unacceptable. If the majority of marks are 3's or 4's a parent/teacher conference is recommended.

ANTI-HAZING STATEMENT

It is the belief of the Rocky River City Schools that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times. No administrator, faculty member, or other employee of the school district shall encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate any hazing activities. No student, including leaders of student organizations, shall plan, encourage, or engage in hazing. Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act, including an act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in the statement.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

An evening awards ceremony will be held after the fall, winter, and spring sports seasons. All participating athletes will be recognized and will receive certificates at this ceremony.

AWARDS

Throughout the school year students are recognized in a variety of ways by their designated teaching team. The first three quarters' recognition includes, but is not limited to, the categories as defined below:

Academic Honor Certificate: Grades of all A's and no more than one B.

Academic Merit Certificate: Grades of A's, B's and no more than one C.

Improvement Roll: To be considered for recognition for the Improvement Award, a student must demonstrate appropriate improvement in his/her work ethic, responsibility, and academic standing as determined by the team. This is recognized quarters two and three only.

Conduct: All 1's and 2's in conduct, and no major disciplinary incidents.

At the end of the year a grade level awards assembly will be held. Students will be recognized for various awards including but not limited to:

Educational Achievement Award: Given in all grade levels for students who have earned the Academic Honor Certificate for the first three quarters.

The Principal's Honor Awards For the classes of 2030 and 2031, this will be presented during 8th grade graduation to all 8th graders who have received the Presidential Excellence Award (all A's for all 11 quarters) and have not received any In School Restrictions or Out-of-School suspensions. This award will be discontinued for students after the 2026-2027 school year.

BICYCLES, ROLLER BLADES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS, AND HOVERBOARDS

Students may ride bicycles to school. Bicycles are to be parked in the bike racks located in the front of the building. You may also lock your bikes on the outside part of the tennis court fence located on Hampton Rd. Bikes parked in the front of the school must be locked and chained to the bike rack. Do not lock your bike to the metal gates in the front of the school. Roller blades, scooters, or skateboards may be ridden to school; however, they are not to be worn or ridden anywhere on school property at any time. Hoverboards are not permitted on school grounds. Students that do not follow these rules will lose their privilege of riding/bringing these items to school.

CELL PHONES

Cell phones are required to be kept in your school locker and **turned off** at all times during the school day (8:15 a.m. – 3:18 p.m.). The purpose of this rule is to avoid issues with text messaging, placing or receiving calls, and the taking of pictures during class. Violations of this policy will result in the minimum of a one–hour detention being assigned after school with the Assistant Principal. Subsequent violations may result in additional consequences including but not limited to additional detentions of longer duration, suspension from after school activities (dances, sports events, social activities), and/or suspensions from school. There is a phone available for student use in the main office if calls need to be made during the day.

We understand that there may be some rare instances when a student may need to have access to their cell phone during the school day. If this is the case, you are to ask for a pass to go to the office to make this request.

CHROMEBOOKS

1. Always have your Chromebook closed when walking with it in the hallway.
2. Report any Chromebook issues to a staff member immediately.
3. Keep your Chromebook clean and treat it gently to avoid keyboard issues, scratches, or serious damage.
4. Chromebooks should not be kept or placed in lockers.
5. Return your Chromebook at the end of each day and be sure it is plugged in.
6. Only use your assigned Chromebook.
7. Chromebooks are not to be used for games or streaming music.
8. Chromebooks should only be used for school projects/assignments.

Discipline will result if any of the above rules are not followed. Lunch detentions will be issued and fines may be administered for Chromebook damage.

Chromebook Replacement/Repair Fees

Full Replacement	$400.00
Screen	$ 70.00
Full Keyboard	$ 75.00
Key(s)	$5.00-$10.00

Hinge	$ 30.00
Case	$ 50.00
Trackpad	$ 30.00

CLEVELAND WEST CONFERENCE (CWC) EVENT GUIDELINES

Fan behavior, signs, noisemakers and dress policy.

Outdoor Events:
Air horns, whistles, noisemakers requiring electric power or noisemakers interfering with play of contest are prohibited. Banners and signs will be permitted, provided they are not personal, negative, unsportsmanlike or vulgar. Signs or banners may not be attached or fastened to a building or facility unless approved in advance by the game manager. The school representative who put the signs up with permission is responsible for removing them.

Indoor Events:
Signs, balloons, pennants, shakers, debris (such as confetti), noisemakers such as horns, bells, sirens, whistles, etc., or noisemakers interfering with play of a contest are prohibited. Shirts and school/spirit acceptable clothing are to be worn at all times. Note: permanent signs in a home gymnasium giving directions are acceptable.

Fan Behavior:
Positive cheering for individuals and teams is expected. Negative cheering, booing, baiting or singling out of participants, coaches or officials is prohibited.

Enforcement:
These rules are to be monitored and enforced by the home school's administration with appropriate/necessary consultation of the visiting school's administration.

CLINIC

The clinic is located in the main office. In the event you become ill or injured, please inform your teacher, obtain a pass, and report to the clinic. If you are between classes (except in an emergency), please inform your next period teacher that you are going to the clinic. If you are ill, you will be permitted to stay in the clinic for up to 20 minutes. After that time, your parents will be called and a decision will be made regarding appropriate care or action. The school nurse will be at RRMS every day. When reporting to the clinic, please be sure to sign in and out on the log.

COUNSELORS

The goal of the Counseling Department is to meet the individual needs of every student- academic, personal/social and career. Counselors support students, parents and staff as they develop trusting relationships throughout the middle school years. Communication between students, parents and staff is a critical component for counselors to ensure positive school experiences and appropriate high school, career and college planning for all students. Counselors are not disciplinarians, but are available to help, assist and advise whenever a need arises. Counselors can make necessary arrangements if a parent conference needs to be scheduled. The Counseling Office phone number is 440-356-6875.

DAILY CLASS SCHEDULE

School Day: All students can enter the building beginning at 8:05 a.m. through the back wing doors. Students will be permitted to attend early morning reviews, Sunrise, or other legitimate reasons. For these instances, students will enter through the front doors and into the main office.

Please time your arrival to school between 8:00 a.m. and 8:05 a.m. Once on school property, you should not leave the school grounds. At approximately 8:05 a.m., all students will be dismissed to their lockers and first class. The school day

is divided into 19 mods of 19 minutes each with a 20 minute intervention at the end of each day. Daily attendance will be taken during the first class. Three minutes are provided between each class period. At the end of the day at 3:18 p.m., students are expected to promptly vacate the building and school grounds unless participating in an approved school activity or under the direct supervision of a teacher or staff member.

DANCES/ EVENTS

The Middle School will plan dances/events for students at appropriate intervals. The purpose of a school dance/ event is to provide a supervised activity that will promote the social development of Middle School students. Students must be in attendance at school on the day of the dance in order to be permitted to attend the dance.

Regulations will be as follows:

1. Only students enrolled in the Rocky River Middle School will be permitted to attend.
2. Students are not permitted to leave prior to the end of the dance/event without permission of the parent arriving to release their child.
3. Event times and dates will be announced on Channel 10 and posted around school.
4. Violation of the Discipline Code at school activities will result in disciplinary action. Such action may include banning the student from future events during the school year.
5. Most dances/events will be held in the Commons.
6. All students will be expected to wear clothing as designated by the school dress code. Students not adhering to the dress code will not be admitted.
7. Sexually suggestive or inappropriate dancing as determined by the chaperones will not be permitted. Students not adhering to this policy will be asked to leave the dance and parents will be contacted for pick-up.
8. Students will be charged at the door for admission to school dances.
9. Students remaining on school property 15 minutes after a dance/event has concluded will not be permitted to attend the next scheduled dance/event.
10. Students who are excused ill from school on the day of an event are not permitted to attend.

DEPICTIONS OF PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Students are not permitted to make or distribute videos, images, sound recordings, or other media that depict behaviors prohibited by the student code of conduct while on school property or at any school event. Any depiction of prohibited behaviors must be immediately submitted to the administration. Any reproduction and/or distribution of these depictions will result in disciplinary action.

DETERMINATION OF GRADE LEVEL

A student must pass three of the four core academic subjects (Language Arts/English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) in order to be promoted to the next grade. A student may be placed in another grade level or be assigned to an alternative schedule or program if it is determined that mitigating factors warrant such action.

DRESS CODE

Final decision as to acceptability of student attire rests with the school administration.

The Rocky River City School District Board of Education believes that appropriate student dress contributes to a

productive learning environment. The student dress code establishes the general parameters and guidelines for student attire. The components of the dress code are necessary for the health and safety of the school environment. School administration shall administer the dress code with neutrality and consistency. Each student bears responsibility for appropriate attire at school and school events/activities. Parents and school administration also bear responsibility for the appropriate attire of students.

General Guidelines:

1. Students are required to show proper attention to personal cleanliness, neatness, health, safety and suitability of clothing and appearance for school activities;
2. Dress and grooming of the student shall not create a hazard to the safety or health of any person or cause a substantial disruption of the school environment;
3. Clothing, jewelry or personal items with language or images that are vulgar, of a sexual nature, sexually suggestive, discriminatory, obscene, profane, libelous or threatening, that contains symbols of hate or hate speech, or that relates to or promotes illegal conduct are prohibited;
4. Students shall not be permitted to wear clothing, jewelry or other personal items containing violent images or language or that creates a hostile or intimidating environment;
5. Gang-related apparel is prohibited.

Specific Guidelines:

1. Undergarments must be covered at all times and not visible;
2. All pants and shorts are to be worn at one's waist;
3. Garments must be of appropriate length and size;
4. Students must wear hard bottom shoes or sandals at all times;
5. Any article deemed by school administration to be in poor taste for school may be unacceptable, including pajamas;
6. Sunglasses and hats/hoods may not be worn, unless approved by principal or designee;
7. Jewelry that poses a safety risk to anyone shall not be permitted;

Clothing with excessive or inappropriate holes, rips, or shredding or that is sheer are not permitted

EMERGENCY MEDICAL FORMS

It is state mandated that Emergency Medical Forms be completed each year by a parent or guardian of each student and submitted through FinalForms. Any change in information should be reported immediately.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

We use the notification service School Messenger to send telephone and/or email messages to parents providing important information about emergencies or school events.

FEES

A $57.00 annual fee shall be charged to each student enrolled in the Middle School for basic supplies and materials.
A $95.00 fee will be assessed to each student involved per activity program requiring transportation. In addition, each student is required to have a physical education uniform that may be purchased from the fitness teachers. A fee up to the maximum amount allowed by law may be assessed for any returned check used to pay student fees, fines, or for any other purpose. School fees may be waived for students in need of financial assistance upon application/approval for the free or reduced hlunch program. This is the standard used for waiver of fees.

6	$57.00

7	$57.00
8	$57.00
Student Activities Transportation Fee	$95.00
Fitness Uniform (if needed)	$20.00 ($10 shirt, $10 shorts)
Physical Science	$15.00
French 1	$20.00
Spanish 8	$20.00
Spanish 1	$20.00

FIELD TRIPS

The principal has the authority to authorize field trips and to establish criteria, which students must meet to participate in such a trip. Students and staff may be involved in establishing those criteria. Failure to attain those criteria may include disciplinary actions including not being allowed to participate in field trips. Such disciplinary actions may be in addition to the usual disciplinary actions. In most instances, each student may be requested to pay a fee associated with the field trip to cover costs. Since we need to make many arrangements regarding transportation, ticket purchases and other issues related to planning, the school may select specific deadlines for registration that cannot be extended. It is the responsibility of the student/parent to make sure that all permission slips and fees are paid in advance of announced deadlines. If students are bringing lunch they have the option to purchase a brown bag lunch from the cafeteria.

FITNESS EDUCATION EXCUSES

Students who need to be excused from fitness education must give a signed note from a parent to the fitness education teacher at the beginning of the period. A note from a parent will be accepted for a period of time up to three days. A physician's statement is required if you are to be excused for more than three days. If you have a medical excuse for less than two weeks, you will remain as part of the class and assist the teacher unless there is some specified medical reason why you cannot do so. If the medical excuse is longer than two weeks, you will be assigned to a study hall. Medical documentation is required to return to fitness participation. Although we maintain records for all of our students regarding individual health issues, it is always helpful when a student will advocate for himself or herself by reminding their teacher of any physical restrictions when necessary.

GUM/CANDY/FOOD

Candy is not permitted in the Middle School building except for approved activities. In addition, candy/food is not permitted outside the cafeteria/Commons area except for special events that have been approved by the principal. Gum is generally permitted in the building as long as it is not seen, heard, or found. Students that do not demonstrate proper use or disposal of gum may lose their privilege of having gum in school. Some classes may restrict the use of gum (i.e. fitness class, world language, speech, and music classes) due to the nature of the class. Use of gum by students in a given classroom is at the discretion of the individual teacher. Student use of chewing gum is not something that is openly permitted in many other schools. It is up to the behavior of the students if this permission will continue. No open beverages besides water are allowed in hallways or lockers.

HALL PASSES

Each student has been issued 10 hall passes per quarter to be used for requests to use the restroom or locker. The passes are printed on a page in the Plan Book and must be carried with the student while out of class. Once the teacher has

granted permission, the student must get their planbook pass signed. Students are not permitted to use or borrow passes from other students or attempt to use passes designated for future academic quarters. Students will also be granted 10 bathroom passes to be used specifically out of study halls.

HOMEWORK

Homework is defined as out-of-class preparation in a given subject area which is either assigned or approved by a student's teacher. Homework is designed to supplement and support classroom experiences and to reinforce learning through practice, integration, and application. Teachers are encouraged to provide you with meaningful homework assignments related to the school's goals and philosophy. These assignments are of such a nature that the student must complete all or part of the assignment during non-class time. Research papers and long-range projects that are in addition to regular homework assignments are assigned far enough in advance to allow sufficient time for completion. Major project assignments will not have a scheduled due date after an extended holiday.

LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE DAY

You are not permitted to leave the school grounds at any time during the school day without having a pass from the office. If for some reason you must be excused from school during the day, a written statement from home must be brought to the office before first period to obtain the necessary pass. If at all possible, medical, dental, and other appointments should be made for non-school hours. If you become ill during the day or a personal emergency occurs, you must always report to the office. A student will be dismissed from school only after a parent or school personnel have notified a responsible adult.

LOCKERS

Every student is assigned a locker to store books and coats. Locker combinations should not be shared with friends. School personnel will assist you with locker combination problems but they cannot be responsible for problems arising as a result of a student telling his or her locker combination to a friend. Lockers are school property and remain at all times under the control of school officials. Periodic general inspections may be conducted at any time without student consent or a search warrant, and students should not expect privacy with respect to items stored in lockers.

NEVER preset your locker combination, give your combination to another student, or use any device to prevent your locker from locking properly.

Almost all of reported locker thefts involve students who have not followed these guidelines. Remember, easy access for you means easy access for everyone. Be sure to close your locker properly by closing the top and bottom latches. Do not jam your locker shut by only securing one latch. Carefully store the items in your locker and close both latches.

Some students like to celebrate the birthday of another student by decorating a locker. You may decorate the locker of another student according to the following guidelines:

1. Use masking tape only to hang decorations, other forms may damage lockers.
2. You must provide your own decorations and supplies.
3. Decorations cannot affect the operation of other lockers in the area or go on the wall or above the lockers.
4. You are responsible to remove all decorations at the end of the week.
5. Food is not permitted as part of locker decorations.

LOITERING

Students are not permitted in the building or on the school property after 3:30 p.m. unless you are involved in a specific school related activity such as sports practices, Student Council, detention, play practice, Sunset, etc. After your

scheduled activity has been completed you are expected to leave the building and the surrounding school grounds immediately. Please note that middle school students are not permitted to use the playground on the northeast part of the school property at any time, as this playground is intended for young children.

LOST AND FOUND

All lost and found items will be kept on shelves below the main staicase. Please be sure to check with the counseling secretary for lost or found items. Valuables such as calculators, wallets, electronic equipment, watches, jewelry, etc. will be kept in the Assistant Principal's office or safe.

LUNCHROOM PROCEDURES

The middle school has a closed lunch period and students are not permitted to leave the school without permission. The following guidelines have been established for your safety and convenience during lunch.

1. Please proceed to the Commons and enter the food court as directed by the supervising teacher.
2. After buying food, you may select your own seat at a table but may not save a seat for another student. Tables and seats are never saved and are available daily to any student on a first come basis.
3. All food is to be eaten in the Commons.
4. Please remain seated after eating until dismissed by the teacher or lunchroom aide.
5. Please clean up after eating, place all rubbish in containers, use towels to wipe off your table, and perform other cleaning if necessary.
6. Dismissal will be in an orderly fashion by a teacher or lunchroom aide after checking the table area for cleanliness.
7. The teacher or lunchroom aide may excuse students to use the bathroom.
8. Uneaten food and liquids are not permitted to be taken from the commons during lunch.
9. **Outside fast food is not permitted to be brought into the lunchroom.**

All students have a pre-established account. Unlimited funds may be deposited to the account electronically or by cash payment. A debit against the deposit will occur for each purchase made.

Cash for purchases are not accepted at any building during the lunch service. Credit will not be offered.

Pre-payment is available by establishing an account at: https://linqconnect.com/main

MEDIA CENTER

The Media Center is available for reference work, recreational reading, and computer use. All students are encouraged to use the Media Center often, but to use it wisely. Books may be checked out for a period of two weeks. The Media Center is open from 7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The library staff may issue passes to responsible students requesting access to the media center before and after school for academic research. A $2.00 processing fee will be charged for lost library books in addition to the replacement cost of the book. The student will be notified of outstanding books. All students are to take care of any outstanding books prior to the end of the school year or replacement cost will be assessed. Students will not be eligible for the quarterly effort and conduct award if they have overdue books.

Students are expected to use the Media Center for research, reading, or for quiet study. Printing in the morning is available but planning ahead is preferred. Those that do not use this time productively may lose their privilege to use the Media Center.

MEDICATION

All medication, including over-the-counter medication, for students during the school day will be submitted on a medication management form. The parent/guardian is to complete the approved form (available in the office or on the district website) to notify the school that the student will need to take medication during the school day. Medication can be turned in to the school nurse or in the main office.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Personal Electronic Devices and AirPods are not permitted to be used during the school day at any time. If you bring these devices to school, they are to be locked in your locker between 8:15 a.m. and 3:18 p.m. and are not to be carried with you during the day. Violations of this policy will result in a minimum of a one-hour detention being assigned after school. The school is not responsible for the loss or theft of any such items that are brought to school and are under no obligation to investigate such thefts. It is highly recommended that these and other expensive items not be brought to school.

PLANBOOKS

All students are required to maintain a plan book for homework. Homework is to be recorded in this book to insure that assignments are identified and due dates listed. Periodically, teachers and counselors review the books to determine if they are up to date and to suggest improvements. The first plan book cost is included within the fees. Plan books that are lost can be replaced by purchasing another in the main office. The number of hall passes will be prorated according to week that the plan book was purchased.

POWERSCHOOL

PowerSchool is an online listing of each individual student's academic standing. Most of the teachers post their grades, homework assignments, and progress of their students on this Web Site. Parents and students should check their academic progress through the use of a personalized user name and password. If you have forgotten your password, please contact the PowerSchool website. If you do not have Internet access at home, you can print a copy of your PowerSchool account at school and take it home for your parents/guardians.

PowerSchool is a tool that can be used to check on your progress. It must never be used as a sole source of information regarding communication between home and school. The first line of communication regarding your daily homework assignments is your Plan Book. Teachers may update their accounts as they see fit, usually weekly and sometimes daily. Since PowerSchool is not the primary method of communication between home and school, the teachers will update their accounts when practical.

PURCHASES OF SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Upon advance approval of the principal, students may be required to buy supplemental books, workbooks, materials, personal instructional or safety equipment, and uniforms or uniform items. The Rocky River City Schools do not provide these items.

SAFETY DRILLS

Every year we are required by State of Ohio law to conduct a series of safety drills. Fire drills, tornado drills and an earthquake drill occur regularly for your protection. Consult the exit posters and procedures in your room for exact direction in vacating the building or moving to an area of safety. Students need to keep quiet and walk quickly to the proper exit at the sound of the alarm.

We are also required to have "lock down drills" each school year. We may have a lock down in the event that an intruder has entered the building or an external threat exists. Lock down drills may also be used during a medical emergency.

Visitors will not be permitted to enter the building until the all clear is given.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Please review information in the RRMS course catalog.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Administrators may search a student or his/her property (including purses, backpacks, athletic bags, etc.) with or without the student's consent whenever they reasonably suspect that a search will lead to the discovery of evidence of a violation of law or school rules. Student lockers are the property of the District and students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in their contents or in the contents of any other District property including desks or other containers. School authorities may conduct random searches of the lockers and their contents at any time without announcement.

Anything that is found in the course of a search may be used as evidence of a violation of school rules or the law and may be taken, held or turned over to the police. The School reserves the right not to return items that have been confiscated.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Rocky River Middle School is proud to sponsor a variety of student clubs and activities for their students. Participation in these programs has a variety of requirements and responsibilities. Students that try out and/or select to participate in an activity should do so with the intent of attending all practices, meetings, performances, and events. Please examine your calendar and other commitments so that you will not become over extended. Time should also be considered for the completion of academic responsibilities as well.

Please make sure to sign-up for all clubs/activities in Final Forms.

The clubs and activities available to students can be found on our RRMS activities page.

STUDENT ATHLETICS

The following athletics are available to 7th and 8th grade students:

Fall- cross country, football, volleyball, cheerleading

Winter- basketball, wrestling, cheerleading

Spring- track and field, softball

In order to participate in any sport, students must have an updated physical in Final Forms prior to the first day of practice/tryout. Please visit the RRMS athletics page for updated information.

STUDENT COUNCIL

You are eligible to be elected each year to the Student Council. The purpose of the Student Council is to enable students to assume a share of responsibility for citizenship experience and to provide services and activities for the student body. They will also assist faculty members, encourage a spirit of friendliness and cooperation among members of the student body, and teach students to recognize and respect qualities of good leadership.

STUDENT AIDES

Some of our students may request to serve as office aides during study hall period. The assistance that these students provide is appreciated. Since students would be scheduled out of a study hall, current academic standing will be given consideration for any interested students. To be considered, a student must:

1. Be consistent with academic achievement by maintaining A's and B's.
2. Be consistent with effort/conduct.
3. Demonstrate responsibility and courtesy.
4. Be scheduled for a study hall.

Student requests will be evaluated by the staff members requesting assistance. Selections will be based entirely on staff choice given the requirements. Due to the potential number of requests and the limited number of available positions, not all requests may be filled. If a request is not filled, the student will be scheduled in a study hall as usual.

STUDENT NOTICE OF VIDEO SURVEILLANCE NOTICE / ELECTRONIC MONITORING EQUIPMENT

For student welfare, video surveillance / electronic monitoring systems are placed throughout District buildings, on school grounds and on buses. Any information obtained from video surveillance / electronic monitoring systems may only be used to support the orderly operation of the District's schools and facilities, and for law enforcement. As such, recordings obtained through the use of video surveillance / electronic monitoring equipment may be used as evidence in any disciplinary proceeding, administrative proceeding and/or criminal proceeding instituted by law enforcement, subject to Board policy and regulations. Any attempt to damage or interfere with the function of these devices will result in disciplinary action by the District and possible referral to the local law enforcement agencies. Copies of video recordings containing personal identifiable information about students shall not be released except to school officials with legitimate educational interests. Parents or guardians of minor students, and students who are eighteen (18) years of age or older, who are charged with disciplinary violations may view relevant portions of any video recording related to the charge, upon written request to the building principal, provided that viewing the recording does not violate State and/or Federal law with regard to the privacy rights of other students whose images appear on the recording. Otherwise, such confidential recordings shall only be released through subpoena or court order. The Board shall maintain video surveillance/electronic monitoring recordings for a limited period (based on equipment). If, however, action is taken by the Board/administration, as a result of a complaint or incident, recordings shall be kept for a minimum of one (1) year from the date of the action taken. Please note that this provision does not address or cover instances where school officials record a specific event (e.g., a play, music performance, athletic contest, graduation, or Board meeting), or an isolated instance where a classroom is videotaped for educational or research purposes. Authorized videotaping for educational, instructional and/or research purposes is permitted and is not addressed by this provision.

STUDY HALL ASSIGNMENTS

Some students are assigned a study hall if they do not participate in band or choir. A band/choir student will typically have one day per week in study hall. If a student participates in both band and choir, they will not have a study hall during the music period for their grade. One nine-week rotation in the sixth and seventh grades will be scheduled as a study hall period. Some students may be assigned to a specific study hall designed for student intervention.

STUDY HALL SUPERVISION

The purpose of the study hall is to ensure a proper, comfortable, and quiet place for concentration. Study halls are expected to be quiet and to be used for studying or reading. Students are expected to be prompt and to take a seat immediately upon entering the room. Students should have something productive to do during this quiet study time. Reading a book is always an acceptable alternative if students do not have assignments. Chromebooks are available for academic assignments.

TARDY TO SCHOOL

Students are asked to observe the start time of the school day and all class starting and dismissal times and to be punctual. The following are consequences for being tardy to school:

1st, 2nd, 3rd Tardy: Office records dates, reminds/ warns the student.

4th, 5th Tardy: Lunch detention.

6th, 7th Tardy: 30 minute detention after school. Assistant Principal sends communication home to parents when 6th tardy is reached.

8th, 9th Tardy: One hour after school detention and assistant Principal sends communication to parents.

10th, 11th, 12th Tardy: 3-hour detention assigned and assistant Principal communicates with parents.

13th Tardy: ISED assigned, meeting is scheduled with parents.

14+ Tardy: ISED or OSS may be assigned. Possible Washington DC forced withdrawal for 8th grade students.

Records for unexcused lateness to school are maintained on an annual basis. Students that are chronically tardy or absent may be referred to the Attendance Officer or the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court.

TARDY TO CLASS

Generally, three minutes are allowed for passing between classes. Bell tones will sound announcing the beginning and dismissal of each class. Students are expected to be in the room before the bell tone is sounded. Your teacher may assign detentions for being tardy to class. Tardies do not start over each quarter or semester.

The following consequences are for being tardy to class:

1st, 2nd, 3rd Tardy: Classroom teacher records dates and reminds / warns student.

4th, 5th, 6th Tardy: Lunch detention

7th Tardy: Lunch detention and the classroom teacher will communicate home.

8th, 9th Tardy: Refer to assistant principal and 30-minute after school detention.

10th, 11th, 12th Tardy: One-hour detention will be assigned and assistant principal contacts home.

13th + Tardy: 3 hour detention assigned and assistant principal communicates home.

TEAM COORDINATOR

Teams have coordinators who are in charge of your general welfare and discipline. Consult your Team Coordinator or your teachers if you have a question or concern. If one hour detentions become necessary, a Team Coordinator will be the supervisor.

TEAM DISCIPLINE

While our goal is to recognize and reward positive behaviors first, there are instances where staff may need to administer minor discipline for behaviors that go against our Student Code of Conduct. While each staff member may have a different classroom management style, it is important that we have consistency in how we are addressing misbehavior here at school.

Students will typically be warned before disciplinary action is taken for minor infractions. The most common of these minor infractions include, but are not limited to: horseplay in the classroom/commons/halls, misuse of the Chromebooks, playing games on the Chromebooks, talking during instruction, and being habitually tardy or unprepared for class.

Staff will be following the protocol outlined below:

- Staff will inform the coordinator when a lunch detention is required due to student misbehavior. Coordinators will

issue lunch detentions.

- After the 3rd infraction, the coordinator will contact home.
- After the 4th infraction, the student will be made aware that the next offense (and any thereafter) will result in an office referral for a one-hour detention to be issued. The coordinator will also contact home at this time. The goal is to give the students a few opportunities to adjust their behavior before escalating the consequences.
- Upon the 5th incident of misbehavior and beyond, parent/guardian notification of discipline will come from the assistant principal.

TEXTBOOKS

Students may be issued textbooks in August and will be required to return them in June. Fines will be assessed to cover damage that is beyond normal wear and tear. Textbooks issued by the school to you are your responsibility even if lost or stolen. Please be sure to report a lost or stolen textbook to your teacher as soon as possible. You will be issued a replacement textbook and charged for the replacement cost of the book. If the book is found after the school has received payment, you will be issued a refund. Teachers may require their students to provide covers for school textbooks. It is recommended that all textbooks be covered.

TRANSPORTATION

You are entitled to bus transportation if you live two or more miles from school. Riding the bus is a privilege that can be denied if abused. The safety and comfort of the passengers requires that everyone remain seated when the bus is in motion and adhere to the same rules of conduct expected at school. You may not ride any bus other than the one to which you have been assigned unless the Transportation Supervisor has approved an emergency situation.

An assertive discipline plan has been implemented in an effort to maintain proper discipline and safety.

The five rules include:

1. Follow the directions of the bus driver.
2. Stay in your assigned seats and face forward.
3. Keep hands and feet to yourself.
4. Talk quietly and respectfully to the driver and other students.
5. Do not eat, drink, throw objects, or litter.

Consequences for violation of the rules are:

1. First violation: The driver will warn the student.
2. Second violation: The student will be reassigned to a new seat on the bus.
3. Third Violation: Written referral to the Administrator. Two lunch detentions will be assigned. The bus driver will call the parent.
4. Fourth Violation: Written referral to the Administrator. The student will be suspended from the bus for one (1) day with 24-hour notice. The Transportation Supervisor will call the parent and notify them that this fourth incident will result in a suspension from the bus.
5. Fifth Violation: Written referral to the Administrator. The student will be suspended for three (3) days with 24-hour notice. The Administrator will call the parent.
6. Sixth Violation: Written referral to the Administrator. The student will be suspended for five (5) days with 24-hour notice. The Administrator will call the parent.
7. Seventh Violation: The Administrator will call the parent and arrange for a conference with the parent, student, Transportation Supervisor, and the bus driver. The student will be suspended for a minimum of five days from the bus.

8. Eighth violation: The Administrator will schedule an expulsion hearing (from riding the bus) with the Executive Director of Human Resources and Support Services.

A severe violation of the bus rules may result in a suspension from the bus even though no previous violations were reported.

VALUABLES

Items of great personal or monetary value should not be brought to school. Personal valuables such as purses, watches, wallets, graphing calculators, cell phones, clothing items, etc. should always be locked up in a locker when not in use. Thefts at school can be the result of students presetting locker combinations, giving their combination out to other students, or leaving items unattended. Please be sure to keep such items in your possession at all times or locked in your locker.

YEARBOOKS

In the fall, students will be able to order a school yearbook for delivery in June. Conduct such as defacing a yearbook will not be tolerated and offending students will be disciplined. The best advice for all students is to only allow close friends to sign your yearbook. **NEVER** pass your yearbook around to a large group to be signed out of your own sight and control.

ROCKY RIVER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT CODE OF CONDUCT

STAKEHOLDERS RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

School staff, students and parents are responsible for reading this document in its entirety and understanding the contents of this document. If any school staff, student or parent has questions or requires clarification regarding the contents of this document, please direct further inquiry to the building administrator.

The Rocky River City School District Board of Education is dedicated to the development of each student's potential for learning and to providing a positive school environment. Essential to the achievement of these goals is reasonable and necessary order within the educational institution itself, its buildings and grounds, and at events and activities held on or off school grounds. The schools of the Rocky River City School District shall be free from disruption that interferes with teaching and learning activities and the positive school environment. School staff, students, and parents must individually and collectively assume a responsible role in promoting behavior that encourages learning and the development of individual potential.

Each member of the school staff is expected to make every effort to supervise, maintain and regulate student conduct in accordance with this document. Each staff member shall refer students to the building administrator who shall then be responsible for determining the necessity for and the nature of informal or formal disciplinary action in accordance with this document.

To achieve a positive school environment for all students of the Rocky River City School District, the Student Code of Conduct and other applicable rules of student conduct shall apply whenever the interests of the Rocky River City School District are involved, on or off school grounds, in conjunction with or independent of classes or school-sponsored activities.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Attend all scheduled classes daily and on time;
2. Be prepared for class and school activities;
3. Bring necessary materials for class:

a. Textbook
b. Notebook paper
c. Pen and pencil
d. Any specialty items (example: gym clothes for fitness education)

4. Respect all persons and property;
5. Refrain from abusive, inflammatory conduct;
6. Conduct yourself in a safe and responsible manner;
7. Abide by all rules and regulations of the Rocky River City School District;
8. Abide by all rules and regulations established by the classroom teacher or other school staff;
9. Do not engage in any disruptive conduct;
10. Be a positive, contributing member of the Rocky River Schools' community;
11. Maintain acceptable behavior in hallways during class changes, before and after school;
12. Adhere to the acceptable use of school-owned technology, property requirements, and the school network - Refer to Internet Use Guidelines on our district website. (7540.03 Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety)

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Maintain regular and/or necessary contact with school staff concerning their child(ren)'s progress and conduct;
2. Ensure that their child(ren) maintains daily attendance and promptly report an absence from or tardiness to school;
3. Provide proper immunizations required by law;
4. Respect all persons and property;
5. Refrain from abusive, inflammatory conduct at school, on school property and at any school or school-sponsored event or activity;
6. Communicate with school staff regarding any problem or condition that affects their child(ren)'s ability to function in school; and
7. Maintain up-to-date contact information at school.

DISCIPLINE FOR STUDENT MISCONDUCT

A major component of the educational program in the Rocky River City School District is to prepare students to become responsible citizens by learning how to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with established standards. Students are expected to behave in accordance with Federal, State, and local laws and rules and policies and administrative guidelines, and in a way that respects the rights and safety of others.

Student misconduct is defined as any student conduct that interferes with the maintenance of a positive learning environment or disrupts the educational process. Student acts and behavior that tend to conflict with the educational programs or are antagonistic to the welfare of other students, school staff, and/or Rocky River City School District and its property will not be tolerated. Student lockers and desks are school property and, as such, may be subject to periodic inspections by authorized school officials. Lockers can be searched based on reasonable suspicion. In addition, parking on school property is a privilege, not a right. Cars parked on school property are subject to routine patrols by school officials. Cars may be searched upon reasonable suspicion.

Disciplinary action shall be determined based primarily on the offense committed. Other factors such as the frequency of a particular offense or the number of repeated Code of Conduct violations as well as the student's age shall be considered. Student misconduct shall result in discipline commensurate with the seriousness of the offense and the relevant circumstances and may justify suspension and/or expulsion.

Certain behaviors, such as use or possession of ATOD (Alcohol, Tobacco – as defined in RRCSD Policy, Other Drugs), fighting/assault and plagiarism, have specific and definitive disciplinary measures, as outlined in the Rocky River City School District Student Code of Conduct.

POTENTIAL DISCIPLINARY ACTION

(Listed in alphabetical order)

1. Behavioral contracts
2. Confiscation of items related to and/or resulting from student misconduct
3. Detention (AM, PM, Lunch, Teacher)
4. Emergency removal
5. Exclusion from extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities
6. Expulsion
7. In-School Restriction
8. Loss of privilege
9. Mediation
10. Out-of-School Suspension
11. Parental conference
12. Parental notification
13. Referral to law enforcement
14. Removal of bus and other privileges
15. Requirement of Outside Counseling or assessment
16. Restitution of damages
17. Verbal or written warning

A student may be excluded from the 8th grade Washington DC trip, or graduation exercises as a disciplinary measure. Any suspected criminal act shall be reported to law enforcement by the building administrator.

DEFINITIONS

Behavioral contracts: A written document completed by the student, parents, and school administrator governing among other things the disciplinary consequences for current and future acts of student misconduct.

Confiscation of items related to and/or resulting from student misconduct: Impound; take temporary possession of items related to and/or resulting from student misconduct as an act of security or by legal authority.

Detention: There are four types of detentions -- teacher, lunch, morning and extended-day detentions. Teacher detentions are usually given for an infraction of a teacher rule in the classroom. Any refusal to serve a teacher detention will result in further disciplinary action.

Emergency removal: The removal of a student whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the curricular or co-curricular school activities. During the period of emergency removal, a student will not be permitted to take part in any school function or activity. A due process hearing will be held on the next school day after the removal is ordered.

Exclusion from extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities: The exclusion from extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities due to misconduct.

Expulsion: The removal of a student from school for a period not to exceed the greater of 80 school days or the number of school days remaining in the semester or term in which the incident that gives rise to the removal takes place. This consequence may extend beyond semesters. During the period of expulsion a student will not be permitted to take part in any school function or activity. In addition, a student will not receive credit for class work during the period of expulsion.

In-School Restriction: In-school restriction is the reassignment of a student from the student's regular class schedule to a designated supervised learning environment in the school where the student may study and/or do other assigned tasks associated with their education. A student will receive credit for classwork completed in In-School Restriction.

Loss of Privilege: The removal of a student privilege for a period of time dependent on the seriousness of the misconduct (e.g. late arrival or early dismissal option, lunch option, parking, attendance to extracurricular co-curricular, or social events).

Mediation: The use of facilitation and other forms of assisted negotiation as an alternative to formal disciplinary action.

Out-of-School Suspension: The removal of a student from the school environment for a least one (1) but not more than ten (10) days per incident. During the period of suspension a student will not be permitted to attend any school function or activity, home or away. During a student's first Out-of-School Suspension, the student will have the opportunity to earn full credit for any assignments, projects, quizzes or tests that fall during the suspension dates. Students are able to make up any missed classwork, assessments, etc. during a suspension for full credit. It is the responsibility of the student to communicate with their teachers in order to obtain assignments.

Parental conference: A meeting with a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to discuss violations of school rules and the impending action school officials may take.

Parental notification: Direct contact with a parent or legal guardian of a student to inform him/her of the child's misconduct.

Referral to Law Enforcement: Informing a law enforcement official of school misconduct believed to be criminal.

Removal of bus and other privileges: The denial of bus and other transportation privileges due to misconduct.

Requirement of outside counseling or assessment: The use of outside counseling or assessment as an alternative or in addition to formal disciplinary action.

Restitution of damages: A sum of money paid in compensation for loss or injury.

Verbal or Written Warning: A verbal or written warning to a student that his/her conduct is in violation of school rules. It may be issued by any authorized school officials including teaching or non-teaching personnel.

LUNCH DETENTIONS

Lunch detentions at RRMS are held during student lunch. School personnel may assign detentions to students for minor infractions of rules or other inappropriate behavior. Missing an assigned detention will result in an additional detention.

EXTENDED DAY DETENTIONS

RRMS extended day detentions are held from 3:18-4:18pm on Tuesday and Thursday. RRMS three hour detentions are assigned on scheduled Thursdays from 3:20 p.m. – 6:20 p.m. Administrators may assign Extended Day Detentions to students for infractions of rules which may be more serious than those warranting lunch detentions but do not justify In-School restriction or suspension. Failure to serve assigned Extended Day Detentions will result in additional disciplinary consequences. During these detentions, no talking or sleeping is permitted, and students are expected to work on school assignments.

IN-SCHOOL RESTRICTION

In-School Restriction at RRMS is held from 8:15 a.m. to 3:18 p.m., Monday through Friday. Administrators may assign In-School Restriction for a rule infraction, in lieu of out-of-school suspension. During In-School Restriction, school rules will be enforced and include no talking or sleeping. In addition, students shall be required to work on school assignments. It is the student's responsibility to come prepared with other educational materials. Students are permitted to either bring their lunch or purchase from the school cafeteria. Failure to serve assigned In-School Restriction days will result in additional disciplinary consequences. If a student receives an in-school restriction, s/he will be permitted to complete any classroom assignments missed because of the in-school restriction.

EMERGENCY REMOVAL

When circumstances are such that a student's continuing presence is reasonably certain to pose a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting curricular or co-curricular school activities taking place within a classroom or elsewhere on school premises, the superintendent, principal, or assistant principal may remove a student from curricular or co-curricular activities, or from the school premises, without complying with the notice of hearing requirements required prior to suspension or expulsion.

In like circumstances, a teacher or supervising adult may remove a pupil from curricular or co-curricular activities under his/her supervision, without complying with the notice and hearing requirements required prior to suspension or expulsion. As soon as practicable after making such removal, the teacher shall submit reasons, in writing, for such removal to the assistant principal and/or other school officials.

If a student is removed under emergency removal, written notice of the reason(s) for the removal and written notice of the hearing to be held regarding the removal shall be given to the student as soon as practicable prior to the hearing. Parents will be notified when a student is removed under this section. A due process hearing will be held on the next school day after the removal is ordered

The hearing shall be held in accordance with the procedure set forth under the suspension procedure, unless it is probable that the student may be subject to expulsion. In that event, the hearings shall be held in accordance with established procedures except that the hearing shall be held within seventy-two (72) hours of the initial removal. The individual who ordered, caused, or requested the student's removal shall be present at the hearing.

OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION

The student shall be given written notice of the intention of suspension and the reasons for such action by a building administrator. The student will be given an opportunity for an informal hearing before the building administrator, superintendent or superintendent's designee to challenge the reasons for the suspension and explain his/her actions.

Within twenty-four (24) hours after the time of a student's suspension, a building administrator shall send written notice of the suspension to the student and his/her parent or guardian and the Treasurer of the Board of Education. The notice shall include the duration of the suspension and the reasons therefore. It also shall include notification of the right of the student or his/her parent or guardian to appeal the suspension to the Board of Education or its designee within five (5) days of the suspension, to be represented in the appeal proceeding, to be granted a hearing before the Board or its designee in order to be heard against the suspension, and to request such hearing be held in executive session if such hearing is conducted by the Board. The Board or its designee, however, shall act upon a suspension only at a public meeting.

EXPULSION

Prior to any expulsion, the superintendent shall give the student and his/her parent/guardian or representative written notice of the intention of expulsion.

The notice shall include the reasons for the intended expulsion, notification of the opportunity of the student, and his/her parent/guardian or representative to appear before the superintendent or his designee to challenge the reasons for the intended expulsion and explain the student's actions, and notification of the time and place to appear. The time to appear shall not be earlier than three (3) not later than five (5) days after the notice is given, unless the superintendent grants an extension of time at the request of the student or his/her parent/guardian or representative. If an extension of time is granted, the superintendent shall notify the student and his/her parent/guardian or representative of the new time and place to appear.

Within twenty-four (24) hours after the time of any expulsion, the superintendent or principal shall send written notice to the student and his/her parent/guardian and the Treasurer of the Board of Education. The notice shall include the duration of the expulsion and the reasons for the expulsion. It also shall include notification of the right of the student or his/her parent/guardian to appeal the expulsion to the Board of Education or its designee within fourteen (14) days of the expulsion, to be represented in the appeal proceeding, to be granted a hearing before the Board or its designee, and to request that such hearing be held in executive session if such hearing is conducted by the Board. The Board or its designee, however, shall act upon an expulsion only at a public meeting. If the expulsion is for more than twenty (20) days, or will extend into the next semester, the notice must also contain information on services or programs that work toward improving the student's attitudes and behavior.

The Board, by a majority vote of its full membership, or by the action of its designee, may affirm the expulsion or may reinstate the affected student or may otherwise reverse, vacate or modify the order of expulsion.

The Board or its designee shall keep a verbatim record of all hearings under this Article. Decisions of the Board or its designee may be appealed to Common Pleas Court under Chapter 2506 of the Ohio Revised Code.

STUDENT CONDUCT OCCURRING ON SCHOOL PROPERTY OR AT SCHOOL-SPONSORED EVENTS

Unless otherwise noted in the individual section, the rules and standards for the discipline of students shall be applicable to any conduct: on-school grounds, during and immediately before or after school hours; on-school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by a group; off-school grounds at a school sponsored activity, function or event; on a school bus or conveyance; at any other time when the student is subject to the authority of the school.

STUDENT CONDUCT OCCURRING OFF SCHOOL PROPERTY OR OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL DAY

The rules and standards set forth for the discipline of students shall apply to misconduct by a student that occurs off school property or outside of the regular school day provided that the misconduct bears a reasonable connection to the interests, activities or responsibilities of the Rocky River City School District and its students, parents and staff.

Social Networking or Telecommunications Misconduct: social media or other social networking misconduct as well as telecommunications harassment that occurs outside the school day and off school property but disrupts the educational environment is subject to the Code of Conduct and potential disciplinary actions and may be referred to the Rocky River Police Department.

BULLYING AND OTHER FORMS OF AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, on a school bus, or while enroute to or from school, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school- approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

This policy has been developed in consultation with parents, District employees, volunteers, students, and community members as prescribed in R.C. 3313.666 and the State Board of Education's Model Policy.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means: any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or violence within a dating relationship.

"Electronic act" means an act committed through the use of a cellular telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.

Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well being. This type of behavior is a form of intimidation and harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyberbullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying also means cyberbullying through electronically transmitted acts (i.e., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, personal digital assistance (PDA), or wireless hand-held device) that a student(s) or a group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s).

Any student or student's parent/guardian who believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the Building Principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. The student may

also report concerns to teachers and other school staff who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the Building Principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports may be made to those identified above.

All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. The Building Principal or appropriate administrator shall prepare a written report of the investigation upon completion. Such report shall include findings of fact, a determination of whether acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying were verified, and, when prohibited acts are verified, a recommendation for intervention, including disciplinary action shall be included in the report. Where appropriate, written witness statements shall be attached to the report.

If the investigation finds an instance of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying/cyberbullying by an electronic act or otherwise, has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action. This may include suspension or up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

If, during an investigation of a reported act of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying/cyberbullying, the Principal or appropriate administrator believes that the reported misconduct may have created a hostile learning environment and may have constituted unlawful discriminatory harassment based on a Protected Class, the Principal will report the act of bullying and/or harassment to one of the Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers so that it may be investigated in accordance with the procedures set forth in Policy 5517 - Anti-Harassment.

Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of aggressive behavior is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as aggressive behavior. Retaliation may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Deliberately making false reports about harassment, intimidation, bullying and/or other aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Deliberately making false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

If a student or other individual believes there has been aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

The District shall implement intervention strategies (AG 5517.01) to protect a victim or other person from new or additional harassment, intimidation, or bullying and from retaliation following such a report.

This policy shall not be interpreted to infringe upon the First Amendment rights of students (i.e., to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions, or debate, that is conducted at appropriate times and places during the school day and is protected by State or Federal law).

The complainant shall be notified of the findings of the investigation, and as appropriate, that remedial action has been taken. If after investigation, acts of bullying against a specific student are verified, the Building Director or appropriate administrator shall notify the custodial parent/guardian of the victim of such finding. In providing such notification care shall be taken to respect the statutory privacy rights of the perpetrator of such harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

If after investigation, acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by a specific student are verified, the Building Director or appropriate administrator shall notify in writing the custodial parent/guardian of the perpetrator of that finding. If disciplinary consequences are imposed against such student, a description of such discipline shall be included in the notification.

Complaints

Students and/or their parents/guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such reports shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any school staff member or administrator, and they shall be promptly forwarded to the

Building Director for review, investigation, and action.

Students, parents/guardians, and school personnel may make informal or anonymous complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by verbal report to a teacher, school administrator, or other school personnel. Such complaints shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. A school staff member or administrator who receives an informal or anonymous complaint shall promptly document the complaint in writing, including the information provided. This written report shall be promptly forwarded by the school staff member and/or administrator to the Building Director for review, investigation, and appropriate action.

Individuals who make informal complaints as provided above may request that their name be maintained in confidence by the school staff member(s) and administrator(s) who receive the complaint. Anonymous complaints shall be reviewed and reasonable action shall be taken to address the situation, to the extent such action may be taken that (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the due process rights of the student(s) alleged to have committed acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

When an individual making an informal complaint has requested anonymity, the investigation of such complaint shall be limited as is appropriate in view of the anonymity of the complaint. Such limitation of investigation may include restricting action to a simple review of the complaint subject to receipt of further information and/or the withdrawal by the complaining student of the condition that his/her report be anonymous.

Privacy/Confidentiality

The School District will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations. All records generated under this policy and its related administrative guidelines shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

Reporting Requirement

At least semi-annually, the Superintendent shall provide to the President of the Board a written summary of all reported incidents and post the summary on the District web site (if one exists). The list shall be limited to the number of verified acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, whether in the classroom, on school property, to and from school, or at school-sponsored events.

Allegations of criminal misconduct and suspected child abuse will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency and/or to Child Protective Services in accordance with statute. District personnel shall cooperate with investigations by such agencies.

Immunity

A School District employee, student, or volunteer shall be individually immune from liability in a civil action for damages arising from reporting an incident in accordance with this policy and R.C. 3313.666 if that person reports an incident of

harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying promptly, in good faith, and in compliance with the procedures specified in this policy. Such immunity from liability shall not apply to an employee, student, or volunteer determined to have made an intentionally false report about harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

Notification

Notice of this policy will be annually circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent/guardian handbooks. At least once each school year a written statement describing the policy and consequences for violations of the policy shall be sent to each student's custodial parent or guardian.

The statement may be sent with regular student report cards or may be delivered electronically.

The policy and an explanation of the seriousness of bullying by electronic means shall be made available to students in the District and to their custodial parents or guardians.

State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy and the related complaint procedures.

Education and Training

In support of this policy, the Board promotes preventative educational measures to create greater awareness of aggressive behavior, including bullying and violence within a dating relationship. The Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate training to all members of the School District community related to the implementation of this policy and its accompanying administrative guidelines. All training regarding the Board's policy and administrative guidelines about aggressive behavior and bullying in general, will be age and content appropriate.

Annually, the District shall provide all students enrolled in the District with age-appropriate instruction regarding the Board's policy, including a written or verbal discussion of the consequences for violations of the policy.

Students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) shall receive age-appropriate instruction in dating violence prevention education, including instruction in recognizing dating violence warning signs and characteristics of healthy relationships. Parents, who submit a written request to the Building Director to examine the dating violence prevention instruction materials used in the school, will be afforded an opportunity to review the materials within a reasonable period of time.

The District shall provide training, workshops, and/or courses on this policy for school employees and volunteers who have direct contact with students. Time spent by school staff in these training programs shall apply toward mandated continuing education requirements.

In accordance with Board Policy 8462, the Superintendent shall include a review of this policy on bullying and other forms of harassment in the required training in the prevention of child abuse, violence, and substance abuse and the promotion of positive youth development.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy. Guidelines shall include reporting and investigative procedures, as needed. The complaint procedure established by the Superintendent shall be followed.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Code of Conduct defines specific acts that are considered violations of the expected standards of student behavior. The Code of Conduct is based on Board policy, District guidelines, and applicable law. These violations are examples of those acts that disrupt the school environment and the teaching and learning in the Rocky River City School District and are not an exhaustive list of acts of misconduct that may lead to disciplinary action. The goal of the Code of Conduct is to provide school staff, students, parents, and community members with a clear understanding of student conduct that is unacceptable and grounds for disciplinary action. A student committing an act of misconduct not listed below shall nonetheless be subject to the disciplinary authority of a building administrator or other school administrator. Each of the behaviors and/or types of misconduct described below is prohibited and may subject a student to disciplinary action. Furthermore, any criminal misconduct by a student shall be reported to law enforcement authorities. Certain criminal acts may result in permanent exclusion from school. When a student is subject to criminal proceedings and is otherwise unavailable (or fails) to report to school, the District may delay adjudication of any school disciplinary matter until the student returns or intends to return to school. This provision shall also apply when a student is withdrawn from school and later re-enrolled.

a. Arson: causing a fire;

b. Abusive Language or Gestures: using or threatening to use any form of communication, gestures, images, photos or other such means which are offensive, obscene, abusive, threatening, and/or vulgar;

c. Assault (non-sexual or sexual): physical attack on another with or without a weapon;

d. Absence (unexcused) from school;

e. Absence (unexcused) from class;

f. Absence (unexcused) tardy to class or school;

g. Aggressive or threatening conduct;

h. Audio/Video Recording (Unauthorized): recording or attempting to record without authorization from school staff any image or other record (audio or video) of a student or staff member;

i. Battery: threatening a physical attack on another with or without a weapon;

j. Bullying: harassment, intimidation, or bullying means verified intentional written, verbal, graphic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both

causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or violence within a dating relationship;

k. Burglary or unauthorized or illegal entry;

l. Cheating: cheating on any school assignment, test or other work, or attempting to do so;

m. Criminal Mischief: damaging or defacing school property or the property of another or tampers with such property so as to endanger person or property;

n. Weapons/Dangerous Instruments/Look-alike Instruments—Possession and/or Use: possessing and/or concealing a weapon and any potentially dangerous instruments, tools, and/or debilitating sprays (such as guns of any kind, knives, razor blades, sharp instruments, penknives, mace, pepper spray, slingshots, or any weapon or equipment which will, is designed to, or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by action of air pressure, carbon dioxide, or mechanical means including but not limited to pellet gas, BB guns, CO2, or air guns). Look-alike instruments are also prohibited;

o. Defiance of Authority/Insubordination: using defiant verbal or non-verbal behavior directed toward any school personnel;

p. Demeaning conduct toward another in and around the school environment;

q. Disruption of Educational Process or Activities: individual or group behavior that interferes with teaching, learning or other school activities; Students shall not use violence, force, noise, speech, coercion, threat, harassment, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct, to cause, attempt, or threaten to cause, the disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, activity, or function of the school. Student shall not solicit or urge other students to engage in such conduct for the purpose of causing, attempting, or threatening to cause, the disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, activity, or function of the school; Preventing or attempting to prevent by physical act or verbal utterance the functioning of any school, class, or activity of any lawful meeting or assembly on or off the school property; Preventing or attempting to prevent students from attending class or any school-sponsored or related activity or event; Except under the direct instruction of the building administrator or other authorized school personnel, blocking pedestrian or vehicular traffic on school property or at the site of any school-sponsored or related activity or event; Continuously making noise or acting in a manner so as to interfere with a teacher's ability to conduct a class or co-curricular activity or with a coach/adviser's ability to conduct an extracurricular activity;

r. Disruption of the School Bus: any misconduct on a school bus; disrespectful conduct toward the operator or other school personnel on the bus; and/or vandalism to the school bus;

s. Unauthorized Publication or Distribution of Materials: publishing or distributing materials at a time, place, or in a manner not authorized by a building administrator or other school personnel;

t. Dress Code Violation;

u. Driving—Unsafe: operating any vehicle on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event recklessly or without regard for the safety of persons and/or property;

v. Drug, Chemical Abuse & Alcohol Policy Violation;

w. Electronic Devices—Unauthorized use or possession;

x. Explosives or Fireworks—Possession or Use: possessing, concealing, or using any article which could explode, burn, detonate, cause bodily harm or have the appearance to do so;

y. Extortion: obtaining or attempting to obtain money, goods, or information from another person by threat or force;

z. Failure to adhere to the standards of respect for others and school property in and around the school environment;

aa. Failure to cooperate with a school investigation or interference with a school investigation;

bb. False Documentation/Forgery: falsifying, misrepresenting, and/or replicating school or student-related documents or signatures;

cc. Fighting: being involved in or instigating aggressive physical contact;

dd. Firearms or Other Weapons: possessing, concealing or using any weapon capable of expelling or propelling one or more projectiles by the action of an explosive or combustible propellant or compressed air or spring including any

unloaded or inoperative firearm, or any simulated or "look alike" firearm. Also, a knife is defined as any device capable of causing serious bodily injury that consists of a blade whether or not fastened to a handle, designed or intended for use as a cutting instrument, regardless of the length of the blade. A weapon is any device or object, which is or may be used to harm another person, including but not limited to a firearm, a knife, a club, a chain, razor, metal knuckles, noxious irritants, chemicals, or explosive or incendiary device. Because the Board believes that students, staff members, and visitors are entitled to function in a safe school environment, students are required to report knowledge of dangerous weapons or threats of violence to the Principal or other school officials. Failure to report such knowledge may subject the student to disciplinary action;

ee. Gambling: participating or instigating the participation of others in games of chance;

ff. Hazing/Harassment/Discrimination/Bigotry/Intimidation;

gg. Inflammatory Action: using or threatening to use written, verbal or electronic language, gestures, photos, images, or other actions to create fear, alarm, and/or disturbance;

hh. Leaving School without Permission;

ii. Loitering/Trespassing: being present in any school area or school bus without authorization;

jj. Lying: students shall not lie about, fabricate, distort, or change information given to school staff or administration or any individual;

kk. Offensive Touching or Contact: touching another person with part of one's body or with any instrument to cause harm, alarm, fear, or intimidation;

ll. Plagiarism: use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work. This includes the use of artificial intelligence and chatbots unless the student has prior approval from the classroom teacher. In addition, falsifying signatures or data or refusing to provide proper identification or giving false information to a staff member is prohibited and may subject a student to disciplinary action;

mm. Pulling/Sounding (or Causing to be Pulled/Sounded) an Alarm without Authorization or Necessity; this infraction may relate to any school fire alarm, the Multi-Agency Radio Communication System (MARCS), and any other school safety or notification/warning system;

nn. Reckless Endangerment: engaging in reckless conduct that creates a risk of physical or emotional harm to another person;

oo. Robbery: taking the property of another person or entity;

pp. Sexual Behavior: indecent propositioning, proposal, contact, touching, and/or exposure of a sexual nature or intent;

qq. Sexual Contact: making or attempting to make contact of a sexual nature or intent with another person with or without the consent of the other person;

rr. Technology—Unauthorized Access, Possession, Disruption, or Use: accessing or causing to be accessed a computer or other District technology system or equipment without authorization; obtaining unauthorized technologies or attempt to do so; altering, deleting, tampering, destroying, or stealing any technology, data, or electronic information or equipment;

ss. Theft/Possession of Stolen Property: taking, exercising control over, and/or obtaining the property of another person or entity; receiving, retaining, or disposing of property of another person or entity;

tt. Tobacco-Free Schools Policy Violation;

uu. Vandalism: intentionally, purposely, recklessly, or negligently damaging school property or attempting to do so;

vv. Repeated Code of Conduct Violations;

ww. Making a fictitious bomb or other destructive threat, making any false report or inducing panic;

xx. Failure to accept discipline or punishment;

yy. Threatening, directly or indirectly, to commit a crime of violence with the purpose to terrorize another or with reckless disregard of the risk of causing terror in another;

zz. Violation of bus and other transportation rules; and

aaa. Violation of classroom rules.

The Board will vigorously enforce its prohibition against discriminatory harassment based on race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, ancestry, or genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes") that are protected by Federal civil rights laws (hereinafter referred to as unlawful harassment), and encourages those within the Rocky River City School District community as well as third parties, who feel aggrieved to seek assistance to rectify such problems. In particular, sexual harassment is any activity of sexual nature that is unwanted or unwelcome including but not limited to touching, pinching, patting, verbal comments of a sexual nature, sexual name-calling, or pressure to engage in sexual activity. The Board will investigate all allegations of harassment and in those cases where unlawful harassment is substantiated; the Board will take immediate steps to end the harassment. The school's disciplinary procedures will be followed in determining the appropriate consequence for any harassment, including suspension or expulsion as appropriate. The Board will also take immediate steps to impose disciplinary action on individuals engaging in any of the following prohibited acts: retaliating against a person who has made a report or filed a complaint alleging harassment or who has participated as a witness in a harassment investigation; and/or filing a malicious or knowingly false report or complaint of harassment. Any student who believes he or she is a victim of harassment in violation of this policy should immediately notify the superintendent/designee, who is the Title IX coordinator, or the student's building principal or other administrator with whom the student feels comfortable. A complete copy of the district's anti-harassment policy may be obtained by contacting the building principal.

The administration reserves the right to confiscate any items in connection with an alleged violation of the Code of Conduct or otherwise considered inappropriate for a school setting.

Aggressive behavior toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties, is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, including any gestures, comments, threats, or actions, which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This also includes intimidation and harassment based on any of the legally protected characteristics such as sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, or disability, stalking, verified bullying/cyber-bullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing. Any student who believes he/she has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the building principal. See Board Policy 5517.01 for details.

Desks and lockers are the property of the Board (Policy 5611) and remain at all times under the control of school officials. Students are granted non-exclusive use of desks and lockers and should not expect privacy with respect to items stored in desks or lockers. Desks and lockers and the contents of all desks and lockers are subject to random search at any time without regard to whether there is a reasonable suspicion that any desk or locker, or its contents, contains evidence of a violation of a criminal statute or a school rule. Building principals or their designees may inspect a student's vehicle parked on school premises if there is reasonable cause to believe that prohibited articles are kept there, or that school rules and regulations have been violated. If such an inspection takes place, the student or another adult will be present. An inspection of a vehicle from the exterior is not a search. This policy will not intend to limit or prevent a school official from investigating incidents and determining a basis for decisions affecting the operation of the schools, conduct of students, or services of employees.

There are situations where severe disciplinary action is required regardless of any behavior history. Out of school suspensions may also be assigned as a first time offense for serious or extreme violations of any rules listed. This decision will be made by the administration depending upon the circumstances involved.

Updated: 6/2025

DRUG, CHEMICAL ABUSE & ALCOHOL POLICY

1. During school, summer school, travel on any school-provided transportation or any school-sponsored activity held on or off school property, students shall not possess, buy, sell, use, supply, transmit, be under the influence of, and/or apply any mood-altering chemical of any kind including alcohol.
2. "Evidence of consumption" means not having the normal use of mental or physical faculties; however, the student need not be legally intoxicated. Impairment of a person's physical and/or mental faculties may be evidenced by a pattern of abnormal or erratic behavior and/or the presence of physical symptoms of drug or alcohol use. The following is a list of examples of indicators of possible drug or alcohol use: stumbling, staggering, being unsteady, slurred speech, being inappropriately loud or quiet, extreme hostility, over aggressiveness, bloodshot, red or glassy

eyes, dilated pupils, smell of alcohol or illicit drugs, and/or physical evidence of drug or alcohol use (bottles, pills, and drug paraphernalia). Failure to submit to an assessment of the student's condition shall be considered being under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs.

3. "Possession" includes, without limitation, retention on the student person or in purses, wallets, lockers, desk, or automobiles parked on the school property.
4. "Mood-altering chemical" including, without limitation, narcotics, depressants, stimulants, hallucinogens, counterfeit drugs, marijuana, alcohol, intoxicating inhalants, and prescription drugs, unless authorized by a medical prescription from a licensed physician and kept in the original container, which container shall state the student's name and directions for proper use.
5. The Rocky River City School District Board of Education recognizes alcohol/drug abuse and dependency to be a serious problem; furthermore, the Board recognizes the dependency stage of chemical use to be a primary physical illness.
6. The Code of Conduct is in effect at school and school-sponsored activities, and on school premises and school buses. In accordance with the Code, possession, consumption, sale or attempted sale of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs, or hallucinogens, "look-alike" drugs, controlled substances without prescription, drug paraphernalia, or any substance purported to be alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs, or attendance at school or school-sponsored activities after having consumed such substances are in violation of the Code and the following procedures will be enforced:

Use/Possession:

First Offense -

a. Ten day Out-of-School suspension. Five days will be waived if the student receives a professional assessment by a certified chemical dependency counselor. Documentation of participation and/or assessment will be provided to the school within 5 school days of the first day of the suspension.
b. Parents will be notified.
c. Police will be notified.

Second Offense -

a. Ten day Out-of-School suspension, recommendation to Superintendent for expulsion.
b. Parents will be notified
c. Police will be notified.
d. Notification to the Department of Motor Vehicles will be sent, causing the student to lose his/her license up to a maximum of 18 years of age.

Sale/Distribution:

First Offense -

a. Ten days out-of-school suspension, recommendation to Superintendent for expulsion.
b. Parents will be notified.
c. Police will be notified.

Suspected use:

a. Parental contact.
b. Possible interventions (including search and police involvement).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (CHEATING/PLAGIARISM)

Cheating and plagiarism cannot be tolerated in the school environment. Plagiarism is the use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work. This includes the use of artificial intelligence and chatbots unless the student has prior approval from the classroom teacher. In addition,

falsifying signatures or data or refusing to provide proper identification or giving false information to a staff member is prohibited and may subject a student to disciplinary action All staff members are to be alert to potential problems in this area and must act to discourage attempts to academic dishonesty.

Offense	Academic Consequence	Disciplinary Action
1st Offense	A grade of zero is recorded. The student may be allowed to redo the assignment for a maximum of 50%.	Reflective Meeting: Student, teacher, parent, and counselor meet to discuss the event and root causes. Parent/guardian and student are advised of future consequences. Teacher notifies the parent/guardian and enters in the discipline log. The counselor sets the meeting.
2nd Offense	Students will redo the assignment and receive zero credit.	Parent and student conference with Assistant Principal; 1 hour detention; Parent/guardian and student are advised of future consequences. Teacher notifies the parent/guardian and enters in the discipline log. Administrator sets meeting and verifies number of academic integrity violations.
3rd Offense	Students will redo the assignment and receive zero credit.	3 hour detention and reflection of choices during detention; Parent/guardian and student are advised of future consequences in writing by administrator Teacher notifies the parent/guardian and enters in the discipline log. Administrator assigns consequence and verifies number of academic integrity violations.
4th Offense	A grade of zero on the assignment.	A day of In-School Restriction; Loss of academic recognition; Parent/guardian and student are advised of future consequences in writing by administrator Teacher notifies the parent/guardian and enters in the discipline log. Administrator assigns consequence and verifies number of academic integrity violations.

TOBACCO, VAPOR, SMOKING

Students shall not possess, use or transmit tobacco or vapor related products on school grounds, at any school function or activity whether on or off school grounds, or on any property within view of the school. This includes smokeless tobacco products (snuff and chew), vapor cigarettes, vapor e-pens or related vapor or e-liquid vapor delivery devices/ tobacco and vapor paraphernalia and possessing lighters or matches.

- First offense – Three days out-of-school suspension - two days will be waived if the student agrees to participate in a tobacco or vapor related cessation program. Information regarding the cessation program will be provided to the parent/student. If a student does not complete the program, he/she will be required to serve the other two days of suspension.
- Second offense – Five days Out of School Suspension

- Third offense – Ten days Out of School Suspension

SASSAULT ON OR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE TOWARD A SCHOOL EMPLOYEE, AUTHORIZED SCHOOL VISITOR, OR ANOTHER STUDENT

Students shall not use vulgar, profane or abusive language or make a vulgar, profane or abusive gesture toward any school employee, authorized school visitor, or any other student nor cause or attempt to cause physical injury to a school employee, authorized school visitor, or another student. Students who make threats, spoken or implied, toward any school personnel will be subject to severe penalties including out-of-school suspension and the filing of criminal charges. All such threats shall be taken seriously and documentation of such threats will be provided to the police department.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY.

It is the policy of the Rocky River Board of Education that there shall not be any discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, age, handicap or national origin in educational programs and activities or employment. The Board has approved grievance procedures for alleged violations of equal employment opportunities and/or equal educational opportunities, outlining a detailed grievance procedure which can be followed when a parent, student, citizen, employee, or other person feels that discrimination has taken place. The compliance officer, Executive Director of Pupil Services, may be contacted at 440-356-6000.

ROCKY RIVER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2026-2027 CALENDAR

Important Dates

August 18.....Teacher Professional Day
August 19.....First Day of School (1-12)
August 20.....First Day of School (P)
August 24.....First Day of School (K)
September 7 .....Labor Day
October 8.....No School for Seniors (College & Career Planning Day)
October 9 .....NEOEA Day
November 5 .....Family Conference Day
November 6 .....Teacher Professional Day
November 25-27 .....Thanksgiving Vacation
December 21 .....Winter Vacation Begins
January 4 .....School Resumes
January 18 .....Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 19 .....Teacher Record Day
February 15 .....Presidents' Day
March 26.....Spring Vacation Begins
April 5.....School Resumes
May 26 .....Last Day for Seniors
May 27 .....Last Day for Preschool
May 31 .....Memorial Day
June 3 .....Last Day of School
June 4 .....Teacher Record Day

Holidays for 12 Month Employees

September 7 .....Labor Day
November 26 .....Thanksgiving Day
November 27 .....Day After Thanksgiving
December 24.....Christmas Holiday
December 25 .....Christmas Holiday
December 31.....New Year's Holiday
January 1. .....New Year's Holiday
January 18 .....Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 15 .....Presidents' Day
March 26.....Day During Spring Break
May 31 .....Memorial Day
June 18 .....Juneteenth
July 5.....Fourth of July

Contingency Days
June 4, 7, and 8, 2027 are designed as student make-up days.

Adopted: June 26, 2025 Resolution #329-25

(9) AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

(21) SEPTEMBER

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27	28	29	30			

(21) OCTOBER

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18	19	20	21	22	23*	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

(16) NOVEMBER

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29	30					

(14) DECEMBER

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27	28	29	30	31		

(18) JANUARY

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31						

(19) FEBRUARY

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28						

(19) MARCH

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28	29	30	31			

(20) APRIL

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(20) MAY

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

(3) JUNE

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

School Not In Session

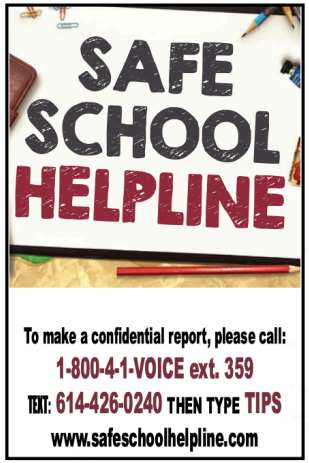
Parent Conference Day

Professional Day

Holiday for 12 Month Employees

T = New Teacher orientation

* = End of Quarter

Grading Periods

First Quarter.....August 19.....October 23 .....= 46 days
Second Quarter.....October 26 .....January 15 .....= 45 days
Third Quarter.....January 20 .....March 25 .....= 46 days
Fourth Quarter .....April 5.....June 3 .....= 43 days