



**Student Handbook & Information  
For Grades 5-8  
2025-2026**

**Parents/Students:  
Read through the information, policies and procedures contained in this handbook.**

## DISTRICT'S MESSAGE

The entire Rockaway Valley School staff welcomes you to our school and extends its best wishes for a productive and successful year.

Rockaway Valley School has a long and proud tradition of offering a curriculum rich with opportunities that inspire every student to explore new concepts and ideas. We encourage you to be active learners and participants in all areas of the educational process.

We will provide you with a nurturing, orderly and safe environment that fosters respect for self, for others and for authority. This established school atmosphere is designed to promote creativity, discovery, risk-taking and self-directed academic discipline in an inclusive stigma free environment.

The Student Handbook has been designed so that each of you can make informed decisions regarding your academic and behavioral conduct.

Since we strongly believe that each child is best served by the partnership of home, community and school, it is expected that all RVS students and their parents/guardians will read and become familiar with our school-wide procedures by reviewing the handbook and signing a confirmation of agreement to adhere to these procedures.

We want your school years to be the best they can be and look forward to helping you prepare for your future.

## RVS VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to create a world-class education. We strive to continue to be a beacon of best practice; a nurturing, inclusive, and dynamic learning community where every educator and student is empowered to thrive. We believe in providing a comprehensive, balanced education that fosters curiosity, critical thinking, and a love of learning. Our school is committed to cultivating a positive culture and climate, where respect, kindness, and support for one another are at the core of everything we do. We will work together to solve problems, celebrate diverse perspectives, and provide consistency and clear expectations. We inspire, instill an excitement for learning, and feed the fire of passions, aspirations, and potential. By fostering an engaging, stimulating environment that prioritizes safety first, we ensure that every child feels valued, confident, and prepared to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

## CITIZENSHIP

It is expected that all students will demonstrate self-discipline and commitment to their school work and studies; will take accountability for their behavior; and will always be respectful, cooperative and courteous to all fellow students and adults. It is important that students to recognize and acknowledge that *with rights come responsibilities*. Have pride in yourself and in your school and everyone will benefit.

## ATTENDANCE

According to state law, the Boonton Township Board of Education has an obligation to require that the pupils of this district attend school regularly and on time. As students, you must participate in all scheduled classroom activities in order to receive the maximum benefits of a thorough educational program.\* The learning process consists of continuity of instruction, classroom participation, and study. Approved reasons for absences are as follows:

- a. Absence due to illness.
- b. Absence to recover from an accident.
- c. Absence due to a death in one's immediate family.
- d. Absence for approved religious holidays.
- e. Absence due to suspension.
- f. Absence authorized by the administration (for emergencies only).

All other absences, (including extended vacations) will be considered unexcused. Parents must report an absence by calling the following number by 9 AM: 973-334-4162, press 1. **Please do not use the regular office phone for absence information.**

\*A student must be in attendance for 150 or more school days in order to be considered to have successfully completed the instructional program requirements of the grade/course to which he/she is assigned.

## HOMEROOM

School doors open at 7:30am at which time all students report to their designated Gym area. At 7:50am students in grade 5-8 are expected to report to homeroom. Homeroom begins at 7:52 and it is important for students to start the day with morning announcements and the Pledge of Allegiance.

## TARDINESS AND EARLY DISMISSAL

When you arrive late to school, after homeroom begins, you must stop in the main office. You will be issued a tardy slip to bring to your homeroom or 1st period teacher. From time to time, compelling circumstances may require that you will be late to school or need to be dismissed before the end of the day. Justifiable reasons for late arrivals and leaving early include:

- a. Medical disability
- b. Family emergency
- c. Medical or dental appointments that cannot be scheduled outside of school hours
- d. Court appearances
- e. Such good cause as may be acceptable to school administration

All late arrivals will be documented as tardy on the report card. It is the responsibility of the student to make up missed work as the result of tardiness. This may be accomplished by conferring with the teacher to determine his/her schedule availability. In addition, a student's

grade may be affected due to repeated tardiness. The Administration understands that emergencies arise and we have made accommodations for these occurrences. However, after 15 tardies, parents will be contacted by an administrator to identify the cause of the repeated tardiness and possible solutions.

The school must be notified in advance of early dismissals by **written** request from your parent/guardian, which should state the time and reason for early dismissal. This note must be brought to the main office after homeroom.

### TRUANCY

For cumulative unexcused absences of 10 or more, a student between the ages of six and 16 is considered truant pursuant to New Jersey law. The school will make every effort to work with families to support students in attaining acceptable attendance. This may or may not include: phone calls home, parent/administrator meetings, home visits and pursuing truancy changes.

### MAKE-UP WORK FOR ABSENCES

It is your responsibility to make up work missed as a result of being absent. If you know you are going to be out due to illness, check your teachers' CANVAS pages. You can ask a friend to gather your homework as well. Homework collected will be waiting in the main lobby for pick up until 3:30pm. Ordinarily, you will have one day for each day absent to make up your work. For example, if you are absent for two days, you will have two days to make up any work missed. In cases of prolonged illness, individual arrangements will be made for make-up work.

### HOMEWORK

Homework is a necessary and very important part of your educational experience. You are required to complete all assignments and present them to your teacher on the designated due date. It is important to note that homework will be included in your marking period grade. In grades 5-8, be prepared to spend between 45 minutes and 2 hours per night Monday through Friday doing homework assignments. Long-range assignments or projects, review of text readings and studying for tests may require additional nightly or weekend time.

### EXTRA HELP

Teachers will announce their availability for extra help and assistance during before- and after-school extra help periods. During WIN periods, students may also see teachers for extra help.

### REPORT CARDS

Report cards are electronically available at the end of each marking period through the parent portal on Genesis.

- a. Grades are reported through a letter system. Explanations, when necessary, are indicated by accompanying numbers (the legend for which can be found on the report card).
- b. You should carefully analyze report card grades and any accompanying explanations with your parents. This careful review should help you understand and recognize strengths and enable you and your parents to develop a plan for areas needing improvement.

- c. Your parents may request a conference to discuss your academic performance by calling the school to arrange for an appointment with a teacher, a team and/or a guidance counselor.

### **PARENT PORTAL ON GENESIS**

Parents and students can electronically monitor grades in classes by logging into the Parent Portal. Overdue books, outstanding fines, lost textbooks or loss/damage of other school property may restrict parent portal access to grades and report cards until the debt is reconciled.

### **HONOR ROLL and AWARDS**

Academic success is encouraged at the Rockaway Valley School. Students who demonstrate academic excellence in all subject areas are distinguished each marking period by placement on the honor roll. Students are eligible for the High Honor Roll by receiving A's in every subject and for the Honor Roll by receiving all A's and no more than two B's in core subjects.

Core subjects in 7th and 8th grades are: Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, Mathematics and Spanish.

*\*In 8th grade only, class rank will be determined by all of your subjects throughout the 8th grade year. At Commencement, a Scholastic Excellence Award is given to 8th graders who have achieved Honor Roll or High Honor Status each marking period from 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades.*

### **COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE SERVICES**

The goal of the guidance and counseling program at Rockaway Valley School is to help our students socially, emotionally and academically. Activities related to these objectives may take place in classroom guidance lessons and in individual and/or group discussion sessions. You are encouraged to consult with your teachers, the school counselor, the school psychologist, school social worker and/or the Assistant Principal, for any concerns you may have. We are all here to help and support you.

SEL Lab will be available during lunches on Wednesdays. Any student may choose to participate in an SEL lab activity. In addition to SEL labs the counselors and CST team will hold social groups during recess/lunch times where students can explore ways to effectively communicate with their peers.

### **LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER**

The Library Media Center has a variety of cataloged books, periodicals, media and online resources so students may quickly and easily determine if a resource is available as well as its location in the library.

Computer resources include EBSCO, a periodicals index with full text of magazines, newspapers and

selected reference resources, The World Book Web, and a variety of Facts on File databases including, American History Online, World History Online, Science Online, World Geography and Culture Online, Bloom's Literary Reference Online, Health Reference Center and Curriculum Resource Center.

Students in grades 5-8 may visit the library during scheduled Reinforcement periods with the librarian or volunteers available to provide assistance with locating/borrowing resources. All resources must be checked out and may be borrowed for one week and renewed upon request. Students are responsible for lost/damaged materials and cannot check out other materials until books are returned or fines paid. Students and parents may be restricted from accessing the Parent Portal for grades until fines are paid.

## CAFETERIA

Students may bring bagged lunches from home or purchase lunch from the Home & School lunch program. Milk money is collected twice a year. A form is sent home on which you may indicate your preference of non-fat skim, low-fat white or low-fat chocolate milk. In addition, a variety of ice cream is sold each day by the Athletic Department.

Remember, all eating takes place in the Lower Gym (or possibly in a classroom, designated by an administrator). Food is not permitted to leave the eating area. Students are expected to demonstrate good table manners and talk in low conversational tones at all times. All paper items must be disposed of in the trash containers located throughout the lunch area. Tables and surrounding areas are to be left clean before you leave the lunchroom.

\* Each lunch table will sit 12 students; with no more than three students seated on each side of the bench.

## TEXTBOOKS

During the first few days of school, teachers may distribute textbooks. You are responsible for the proper care of these textbooks. Each book shall be labeled with your name. You will be required to pay for any lost or damaged books assigned to you. Grades, diplomas and report cards will not be accessible on Genesis until the textbook is found or the respective fine is paid.

## CHROMEBOOK

Students in grades 5-8 are required to annually sign the district Chromebook Agreement, found in the Genesis Portal. Your Chromebook will not be assigned to you without this completed form. The agreement requires you to bring your device fully charged to school daily and charges you with proper handling of your device. Students also receive a Chromebook case with strap, as well as the charger for the device. These items are school issued and expected to be returned at the end of the year in good condition. The Chromebook must stay in its original case during use to prevent incidental damage.

## LOST AND FOUND

The Lost and Found is located in a container in the Lower Gym. If you lose anything, be sure to check this area. At the end of each month, we donate unclaimed clothing to local charities. We recommend labeling your materials as best you can so we can return lost items to you.

## FIRE & SECURITY DRILLS

Fire drills and security drills are held once a month to aid in the orderly and safe evacuation of the building in the event of an emergency.

Signs are posted in each classroom that detail the exits to be used by students in that room when the fire alarm sounds. Teachers will guide you to the proper exit, where you will wait outside the school building. You are to exit your classroom and the building by walking in a silent and orderly manner so that all students may hear the directions given.

You may have to lockdown in the classroom. Again, listen to your teachers for directions.

Any student not adhering to these expectations may receive a disciplinary consequence.

## HEALTH SERVICES

If you are sick during the school day, ask for permission to go to the nurse's office. If you have a fever or serious injury, your parent or guardian will be notified to pick you up. No student will be sent home to an empty house.

All medicines brought to school must be left in the nurse's office. These medications must have a written statement and instructions from your doctor. **STUDENTS MAY NOT CARRY ANY FORM OF MEDICATION** unless they have a signed form on file in the Nurse's Office from their doctor allowing them to self-administer. This is commonly done for inhalers and EpiPens. The nurse may be contacted by calling (973) 334- 4162 extension 361.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)

All students are required by law to participate in Physical Education classes. All grade levels will have PE every day. Participation in PE will require proper shoes and clothing. Students are encouraged to keep a pair of sneakers in their lockers. Flip-flops and crocks are not acceptable footwear for PE class. A parental note is necessary if you need to be excused from physical activity (physical activity includes recess). An extended excuse of more than 1 week requires a note from your physician, who should also indicate when you will be ready to resume participation in physical activity. These notes should be brought to the school nurse prior to homeroom. The nurse will then write out a PE excuse pass. Restrictions for Physical Education classes also apply to recess. If a physical education restriction lasts for an extended amount of time, the PE teacher will assign an alternative assignment that reflects standards in the subject area in order to assess the student.

## LOCKERS

All lockers are property of the school district and can be checked at any time. Students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade have the responsibility of ensuring that all of their belongings are properly

stored in their lockers and not on the hallway floor. No stickers can be placed on the outside or inside the locker. Birthday decorations cannot contain balloons or anything that cannot be removed without damage.

### WIN: WHAT I NEED

This period is designed for students to get extra help, finish tests, or jumpstart homework. Students in grades 5-8 must report to their Reinforcement teachers before requesting permission to see another teacher.

### SOAR TIME

- **SHOW RESPECT**
- **OWN YOUR ACTIONS**
- **ACT SAFELY**
- **REACH FOR EXCELLENCE**

In order to promote a safe and positive school environment all students participate in embedded SEL activities, but meet for SOAR every other Friday during an extended homeroom period. During this time the school community will focus on the four tenets of SOAR and participate in social emotional learning activities. The students will also be assigned Falcon/Fledgling mentor/mentee relationships where older students are paired with younger students to develop core character traits, social and emotional learning strategies and explore career readiness standards.

### MONEY AND VALUABLES

It is not wise to bring valuables or large amounts of money to school. If it is necessary to do so, ask the secretary in the Main Office to lock them safely away for the school day. ***The district is not responsible for lost or stolen items.***

### STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The following guidelines have been established to safeguard the physical and emotional well-being of all members of our school community:

1. **Zero Tolerance for Physically/ Verbally Aggressive or Discriminatory Behavior** Rockaway Valley School cannot and will not tolerate the harmful use of physical contact (i.e., fighting), the use of obscenities in language or gestures, sexual harassment or the making of threats or discriminatory remarks based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability. Any student engaging in such behavior can expect to receive immediate disciplinary action. Our school's top priority is to ensure the safety of all students and staff.
2. **Classroom Behavior Expectations**
  - After passing time, students are seated with appropriate materials, and are prepared to work.



- Students should use courteous and appropriate language at all times.
- Students must respect others' right to work and avoid unnecessary noises or distractions.
- Students will be independent and honorable in doing work.
- Students must show respect for all school personnel and volunteers including substitute and student teachers.
- Students will refrain from writing, reading and passing personal notes.
- Students will avoid calling out and speaking with fellow students during class unless instructed to do so.

### **3. Hallway Behavior Expectations**

- Students will walk, not run in the hallways.
- Students will wait to enter classes in ways that allow for all students and staff to pass.
- Students will keep the level of their voices in a normal range; no yelling.
- Students cannot cut through the Lower Gym to access classrooms
- Students cannot carry backpacks with them in the halls
- To avoid accidents, students should not drink from water bottles while walking in the hallways.

### **4. Recess/Cafeteria Behavior Expectations**

- Students are expected to dress appropriately for recess daily
- Students are expected to play safely and fairly on the playground following the rules set forth by the teachers on duty
- Electronic devices are not allowed during recess
- Students are expected to clean their lunch areas before being dismissed from the cafeteria
- Students are expected to stay seated and cannot move around the cafeteria to socialize with other tables.

### **5. School Dress Expectations**

Rockaway Valley School is an educational institution and all students are expected to dress appropriately for this environment. Neatness, cleanliness, safety and good taste are the key factors to keep in mind.

- Short shorts, skirts and pants worn below the hips are unacceptable. It is expected that shorts are fingertip length.
- Coats, jackets, hats, sunglasses, and backpacks may not be worn in the building. Please leave them in your locker during the school day.
- Clothing must cover the front, back and sides of each student; therefore, short belly shirts (Crop tops), halter-tops and tops with thin "spaghetti" straps are not permitted. Excessively low armholes or any clothing where student's sides and underarms are exposed are prohibited.
- Traditional pajamas and unsafe footwear like slippers are unacceptable
- Articles of clothing that show profanity, promote use of alcoholic beverages, illegal substances or have provocative messages or which symbolize affiliation with gangs, negative or hate groups are not allowed.
- Any accessory that can be dangerous, intimidating and/or disruptive or deemed to interfere with the school learning environment is unacceptable and not to be

worn by students.

- Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. Sneakers or rubber soled shoes must be worn in Phys. Ed. class.
- When possible, students will go outside for recess. Students should dress appropriately in warm weather and cold weather. Coats or jackets should be worn in the winter months.

Students who choose not to comply with our dress code will be warned and asked to change immediately with clothes from the nurse's office or from parents. **The administration reserves the right to interpret the dress expectations for students on a case-by- case basis if needed. Multiple dress code violations may lead to points.**

#### **6. Dangerous/Destructive Items**

The following items are considered dangerous or destructive and **must never be** brought to school. Possession and/or use of any of these items may be cause for disciplinary action and/or referral to local police authorities:

- Cigarettes, Vaping devices and other tobacco/vaping products
- Matches and cigarette lighters
- Drugs, alcohol, and other controlled substances
- Fireworks
- Weapons (***any type, size, shape or form***), including but not limited to toy or water pistols, BB guns, and paint guns; knives of any type including pocket knives, exacto or craft knives, common kitchen knives or toys; pepper spray; sling shots/wrist rocket
- Spray paint
- Laser pointers
- Shock devices
- Remote control devices

#### **7. Disruptive Items:**

The following personal items can be a distraction to the school day and must not be brought to school. They will be confiscated by teachers and/or administrators and returned at a later time.

- Electronic musical/gaming devices, Kindles, iPads, any tablets, digital gaming systems
- Novelty items, toys such as fidgeting devices or electronic devices
- Skateboards, rollerblades, Lacrosse/Hockey sticks (unless your parent drives you to and from school)

#### **8. Water Bottles:**

Students may bring water containers to school. The container must also seal or close properly. No hot beverages such as those in thermos containers are permitted in the halls during school. To prevent accidents in the hallways, students may only drink in classrooms.

#### **9. Cell Phones/Smartwatches:**

Students may use their cell phones or smartwatch before and after the instructional day. However, cell phones and smartwatches MAY NOT be used or worn DURING the school

day. All cell phones and smartwatches must be turned off and kept in the student's backpack in their locker during the school day. If a student uses a cell phone or smartwatch during the school day, it may be confiscated by a staff member and delivered to the main office. Confiscated phones/watches will only be released to the parent or guardian. If a cell phone/watch is used again in school and confiscated more than once from the same student, it may result in disciplinary action.

**10. Vandalism and Damage to School Property:**

The Board of Education provides students with an environment that stimulates creativity and learning. It has purchased many valuable educational tools and equipment for student use such as desks, computers, calculators, microscopes, research material, lockers, etc., and must maintain the building, its furnishings and the grounds. Students need to be aware that fines and penalties will be imposed when school property is damaged, lost or defaced. Students who are found destroying, damaging or defacing school property may be expected to pay for the damages or cost of repair, replacement or cleaning of the property. Police may be notified to help investigate an act of vandalism.

**11. Gang Activity:**

Membership or affiliation with a gang or group presents a clear and present danger to the school environment. The use of hand signals, written or oral comments, accessories by virtue of color, arrangement, trademark or symbol that indicates or implies a membership to a gang is prohibited. Any person wearing, carrying, distributing or displaying gang paraphernalia or exhibiting gestures or behaviors that can symbolize gang activity or cause intimidation or affect the sense of personal safety of another student or staff member will be subject to disciplinary action.

**12. Acceptable Use of Technology:**

Students must adhere to the Terms and Conditions of the District's Acceptable Use Policy (Policy 6142.10). Parents of all students are required to have their child(ren) review the online Internet Acceptable Use Agreement and electronically sign off they have done so. All students in grades 3-8 will be assigned a full Google Suite account. Any activity using the school computers that is not specifically approved by a teacher or administrator is prohibited. Students will be personally responsible for the cost of repairs, replacement parts or technician time when it is required to restore computers to their original settings or to remove unapproved, downloaded information. Students engaging in such activities will lose computer privileges. Any act of cyber bullying or terroristic threats committed on school grounds, on school buses or bus stops may be referred to the Boonton Township Police Department. All students in grades 5-8 must comply with the mandatory technology fee of \$30 that covers accidental damage to their issued device no more than two times in the school year.

**13. Bus Behavior**

Students are under the authority of the Boonton Township Board of Education when riding on a school bus. Therefore, the following procedures must be followed for the safety of all our students:

- ***Oldest students sit towards the back of the bus and younger students sit towards the front of the bus.***
- Be at the bus stop 10 minutes before scheduled pick-up time.
- Walk to or from the bus.
- Wait on the sidewalk or shoulder, never in the roadway.
- Be respectful of private property at or near the bus stop.
- Do not push or shove while waiting in line to board the bus.
- Wait for the driver's signal before crossing the road.
- Always cross at least 10 feet in front of the bus.
- Never cross the roadway behind the bus.
- Use the seat belt provided on the bus; it is a state mandate.
- Stay in your seat always facing forward.
- Keep head, arms and legs inside the bus at all times.
- Always obey the driver.
- It is unsafe to yell or shout on the bus. The driver needs to be able to hear his dispatcher for instructions. Do not distract the driver.
- Do not deface the bus seats or other equipment.
- There are many students with food allergies; please do not eat or drink on the bus.
- Don't leave personal articles on the bus.
- Keep the bus clean.

**YOU MAY RIDE ONLY YOUR ASSIGNED BUS.**  
**You may not ride another student's bus. You will need a pass from the office to get off at a different bus stop.**

***Students who fail to comply with the above regulations may be deprived of the privilege of using the bus.***

## **Student Discipline**

Students must follow school and classroom rules and expectations.

Any teacher or staff member may complete a **Teacher Action Report (TAR)**. **Teacher Action Reports** are intended to both document and notify parents and the administration about less serious incidents. *These referrals may or may not have points or other administrative interventions attached to the consequence.*

Teachers may assign their own detention before referring students to the office. Based on administrative discretion, repetitive Teacher Action Reports can lead to further consequences such as recess detentions, lunch detentions, in-school detentions or out of school suspensions. Referrals can lead to points that can affect participation on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip or 8<sup>th</sup> grade end-

of-year activities and other privileges for 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders.

Severe infractions may result in an in- or out-of-school suspension and police notification as required by law.

**Offenses at any grade level that result in injury to another student will be referred to the Main Office immediately.**

All students must play an active role in promoting a positive school climate. The objective of our school discipline code is to curtail and prevent inappropriate behavior. This should be done in a partnership between the school and home.

While there are consequences for infractions, students who behave appropriately will be rewarded with praise, positive reinforcements and a favorable school climate in which to learn and interact with peers and staff. The “**Falcon of the Month**” award and **other recognitions** encourage and reward responsible and desirable behavior.

### **Consequences for Inappropriate Behavior**

It is important to understand that your adherence to the Code of Conduct begins the minute you leave home in the morning and continues until the minute you return home. Those who choose not to comply with the RVS Code of Conduct can expect to attend Detention(s), which may be with the teacher before or after school, during lunch or recess and may have “points” applied to their record (see below).

Parents note: If you have questions or concerns about a disciplinary situation, begin by first contacting your child’s teacher(s). If you are still concerned after discussing the problem with the teacher(s), contact the assistant principal. Lastly, if questions remain, call the principal to help mediate the situation.

Students who repeatedly disregard our Code of Conduct may be excluded from such privileges as participation in extracurricular activities, athletic events, class outings/trips and other grade level special activities.

### **Grade 5 & 6 Point System**

RVS has a progressive point system that begins in the fifth grade. This point system will be in effect for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade from the beginning of the school year. The point system may affect one’s eligibility for attending class trips and participating in year-end activities.

Examples of infractions that may warrant points are:

- One point can be administered for any Teacher Action Report Referral or a Student Conduct Referral. Referrals will be issued for disrespectful behavior, inappropriate behavior, defiant acts, etc.
- One point for a teacher referral from a *substitute* teacher.
- Four points for an in-school suspension.
- Five points for an out-of-school suspension.
- Points for any other infractions, based on multiple Teacher Action Reports (TARs) will be assigned on a case-by-case basis.

**If a student accumulates six (6) or more points, they may be excluded from attending field**

**trips or other special events.** Points do not accumulate from 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. If a student has accumulated points, he or she can reduce points by not receiving a Teacher Action Report/Referral for misbehaving in school. Each month of positive reports from the students' teachers, results in a reduction of negative points.

### Grade 7 & 8 Point System

A second point system takes place starting in the seventh grade. Points do not accumulate year to year and students start September with a clean slate. Any 8th grade student who has accumulated **7 points by April 30<sup>th</sup>** of their 8th grade year, may not be allowed to participate in 8<sup>th</sup> grade activities including overnight field trips, any end-of-the-year activities, including Dorney Park. Any fees that have been collected for these events may or may not be refunded and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Examples of infractions that may warrant points are:

- One point can be administered for any Teacher Action Report/Referral. Referrals will be issued for disrespectful behavior, inappropriate behavior, defiant acts, etc.
- One point for a teacher referral from a *substitute* teacher.
- Four points for an in-school suspension.
- Five points for an out-of-school suspension.
- Points for any other infractions, based on multiple Teacher Action Reports (TAR) will be assigned on a case-by-case basis.

If a student has accumulated points, a student can reduce points by not receiving a Teacher Action Report/Referral for misbehaving in school. Every month of positive reports from the students' teachers, can result in the reduction of negative points.

### General Behavior Guidelines

Infraction	Possible Consequence(s)
Assembly Disruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• removal from assembly</li> <li>• detention</li> <li>• miss next assembly</li> <li>• assigned seat</li> </ul>
Bullying and/or Harassment (HIB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• detention</li> <li>• suspension</li> <li>• conflict resolution/restorative practices</li> <li>• police contact</li> <li>• intervention</li> <li>• support</li> </ul>
Cyberbullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• detention</li> <li>• suspension</li> <li>• police contact</li> <li>• intervention</li> <li>• support</li> </ul>
Cheating or copying work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade of 0 or as determined by teacher</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contact parent</li> </ul>
Classroom disruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contact parents</li> <li>• teacher detention</li> </ul>
Fighting or Assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• detention</li> <li>• suspension</li> <li>• police contacted</li> </ul>
Inappropriate Use of Chromebook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of chromebook privilege</li> </ul>
Inappropriate language or gesture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• detention</li> <li>• suspension</li> <li>• restorative practices</li> </ul>
Disrespect to authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contact parents</li> <li>• detention</li> <li>• suspension</li> <li>• restorative practices</li> </ul>
Lunchroom disruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lunch detention</li> <li>• assigned seat</li> </ul>
Tardiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• letter home</li> <li>• supportive interventions</li> <li>• detention</li> </ul>
Theft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• suspension</li> <li>• police contact</li> <li>• paid restitution</li> </ul>
Vandalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• suspension</li> <li>• police contacted</li> <li>• paid restitution</li> </ul>
Violence or Terroristic Threat(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• out-of-school suspension</li> <li>• parent contact</li> <li>• police contacted</li> <li>• DCP&amp;P notification</li> <li>• behavior contract upon reentry</li> </ul>

The school reserves the right to determine consequences for any misbehavior or infraction. Severe infractions may result in an in- or out-of-school suspension and police notification as required by law. In addition to traditional consequences, the school also implements student support services and interventions to help identify the causes of the behavior to collaborate on solutions to further assist the student.

The administration also reserves the right to remove a student or remove a student's participation in an activity or a field trip due to the student's behavior that the administration deems unsafe or extreme.

## CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- 4th Grade Band
- 5th Grade Band
- Upper Grade Band (Grades 6, 7, 8)
- Select Chorus

Students who sign up for band will have group lessons once per week rotating in their daily schedule. Full band rehearsals are scheduled during one reinforcement period each week. Early (7:00 AM) band rehearsals will take place during "concert" seasons. Students will be informed of these rehearsals when they receive their schedules from Mrs. Covart. Students wishing to try out for Select Chorus will audition in the Fall. Select Chorus rehearsals take place during one of the reinforcement periods.

Students will receive a grade for both band and select chorus this year.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

The academic program at RVS is supplemented by extra-curricular activities that give students an opportunity to expand their areas of interest. These programs are held before or after school and under adult supervision. They provide an environment of social growth, promote positive attitudes among our students and opportunities for growth and leadership.

According to the Sports Code of Conduct when a student receives a TAR report they will miss the next game, please see the attached link.

Link to [Athletic Code of Conduct](#).

<b>Interscholastic Sports Teams 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Boys' and Girls' Soccer</li><li>• Boys' and Girls' Basketball</li><li>• Boys' and Girls' Track &amp; Field</li><li>• Boys' Baseball and Girls' Softball</li><li>• Cross Country (boys' and girls')</li></ul>	<b>Clubs, Organizations/Activities 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yearbook</li><li>• Student Council</li><li>• Broadcast Club</li><li>• Academic Bowl</li><li>• Service Squad</li><li>• Environmental Club</li><li>• Forensics/Debate Team</li><li>• Ski Club</li></ul>
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### 4Kids After School Enrichment Classes:

After-school enrichment classes are offered various times during the year. Sponsored by the Boonton Township Education Foundation, these classes offer a unique opportunity to try out a skill or hobby or learn about a new, fun subject. Registration forms are sent home prior to the beginning of each session. There is a fee to participate. See the BTEF website for more information.



## ASSEMBLIES:

Assemblies take place periodically during the school year. They are intended for educational purposes as well as supplementing and enhancing the curriculum. **Students will go to all assemblies with their class and sit as a group with their teacher. Entering and departing from the auditorium should be done quickly and quietly. Students are expected to be attentive and courteous at all times during the presentation.**

When a student is involved in a **group performance** (a performance in which a whole class or grade performs together) during an older or younger sibling's normally scheduled class time, a parent or guardian may request that the sibling be permitted to attend that performance. The parent or guardian should email that request and report to the office prior to the assembly when their child will be called to join them. At that point, it will be up to the discretion of the teacher as to whether or not the student may leave the class after considering test/quiz administration or group presentations. These students will need to sit with their parent or guardian during the program and will return to class immediately after it is over.

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BOONTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION Boonton Township, New Jersey 07005 <b>POLICY</b>	File Code 5145.12
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## Search and Seizure

School lockers remain the property of the District even when used by pupils. Lockers are subject to administrative search in the interests of school safety, sanitation, discipline, and enforcement of school regulations and to search by law enforcement officials on presentation of a proper warrant. Pupils and their parents/guardians shall be informed of this policy when lockers are assigned.

A Pupil's person and possessions may be searched by a school official provided that the official has reasonable grounds to suspect that the search will turn up evidence that the pupil has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school. Under no circumstances shall a search be conducted based solely upon an anonymous tip and/or a rumor that contraband is present. The extent or scope of the search shall be reasonably related to the objectives of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the pupil and the nature of the infraction. A physical search may only be conducted by a staff member of the same sex as the pupil. Before instituting such a search, except in cases of emergency, the principal shall try to inform the parents/guardians and request their presence.

School personnel shall not conduct strip searches or body cavity searches of any pupils under any circumstances.

### Searches for Controlled Dangerous Substances/Drug Paraphernalia/Alcohol/Firearms/Other Deadly Weapons

Searches conducted by staff when there is suspicion that laws and policies on safe and drug free schools are being violated shall be based on the reasonable grounds required by this policy. The privacy interests of students are outweighed by the substantial interest of teachers and administrators in maintaining a drug-free environment in the classroom and on school grounds, and consequently, locker searches and vehicle searches on school grounds need satisfy only the "reasonable suspicion" standard adopted by the courts in T.L.O. and State v. Best. When law enforcement officials conduct the search, the more stringent grounds required by law must be applied. See policies 5131.6 and 5131.7

Date: September 12, 1985  
Readopted: February 4, 1993  
Revised: March 8, 2007  
Revised: January 6, 2021

#### Legal References:

N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60 et al. Disclosure of juvenile information; penalties for disclosure

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1 General mandatory powers and duties  
N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19.2 Student lockers or other storage facility; inspection; notice to students  
N.J.S.A. 18A:37-6.1 Strip and body cavity searches prohibited  
N.J.S.A. 18A:54-20 Powers of board (county vocational schools)  
N.J.A.C. 6:29-10.1 et seq. Safe and drug free schools  
State in interest of T.L.O., 94 NJ 33 (1983); New Jersey v T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325, 53 (1985) Verona School District 47Jv. Acton et ux., Guardians ad litem for Acton, U.S., 115 S.Ct. 2386 (1995) The New Jersey School Search Policy Manual, New Jersey Attorney General (1998)  
A Uniform State memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials