# **Roanoke Rapids High School**

## Student Handbook 2024 - 2025



800 Hamilton Street Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870 (252) 519-7200 (phone) (252) 519-7395 (fax) http://rrhs.rrgsd.org/

Student and parent(s) need to read this handbook thoroughly. Please discuss its contents and know what is expected of you. After reading, you and your parent(s) need to sign the confirmation statement acknowledging receipt of this handbook. Not signing does not relieve you of your responsibility to follow these guidelines and expectations.

> Our Mission Every student, every day, whatever it takes.

School Information	School Calendar
Address:	First Day for StudentsAugust 26
Phone(252) 519-7200	Last Day for Students/Graduation June 6
Fax(252) 519-7395	Progress Reports
Counseling Center(252) 519-7235	Grades and attendance are updated weekly and can be viewed in Parent Portal at any time. If you need
Athletics(252) 519-7243	additional help with accessing your Parent Portal
Band(252) 519-7249	account please contact the office.
Websitehttp://rrhs.rrgsd.org/	September 25 December 4 February 19 May 7
MascotYellow Jacket	End of Nine Weeks
School ColorsBlack & Gold	October 25 January 17 March 26 June 6
Administrators, Directors, and Support Staff	Exam Schedule
Principal	1st SemesterJanuary 13 - 17
Assistant Principals Candi Horton Jen Ott	2nd Semester June 2 - 6
Alternative Learning Center DirectorAngela Mallory	
School CounselorsJessica Elias	
Sabrina Hunter	*A full copy of our school calendar that includes
School NurseEmily Harris	holidays and teacher workdays can be found on
Athletic DirectorMark Snead	our district's website, https://www.rrgsd.org/, on
Student Success Advocate Barbie Shearin	the home page.
Office Staff BookkeeperBlair Wells	
PowerSchoolSusan Majors	
Administrative AssistantsMeggan Coggins	
Samantha Hux	
Admin. Assistant Counseling Terri Stainback	

## **RRHS School Song**

#### FAITHFUL AND TRUE-HEARTED

Faithful and true-hearted Let us cheer for our old high We revere her and defend her As her colors proudly fly.

There's no other that can match her When her team is on the field;

Her colors streaming, glad faces beaming;

So here's a cheer for her, for her we love so well.

Joyous and ever loyal, Let us cheer for our old high; Let every heart sing, let every voice ring, There's no time to grieve or sigh. It's ever onward, her course pursuing.

May defeat ne'er her ardor cool, But united we will boost for her – OUR OLD HIGH SCHOOL.

Honor she has taken,

On the track and with the ball. May she always rank the highest; May her colors never fall.

There's no other that can match her When her team is on the field;

Her boys the fleetest, her girls the sweetest,

So here's a cheer for her, for her who'll never yield.

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#### **Statement of Philosophy**

The faculty and administration believe that every student has the right to a diversified educational opportunity in a positive, safe, and orderly learning environment. The staff of Roanoke Rapids High School believes that education is a shared responsibility between parents, students, and staff. We are dedicated to providing an educational plan that stresses excellence in all programs: academic, vocational, cultural, physical education, sports, remedial, and exceptional. We further believe in the dignity and potential of the individual and accept our responsibility for encouraging the development of self-confidence and the identity of strengths and weaknesses so that realistic decisions concerning goals in life can be made. We are also dedicated to helping young adults value learning as a serious, lifelong commitment, an ongoing process that promotes good citizenship and enhances the quality of life. We further recognize that education is more than skills development and accumulation of knowledge, and our philosophy encourages guidance of our students toward a sense of responsibility to school and society as well as to themselves and their future.

The staff is dedicated to promoting excellence within its own ranks; therefore, there is a constant evaluation of the changes within our community, profession, and society for the purpose of reassessing our curriculum and meeting new challenges. We at Roanoke Rapids High School are committed to strong professional staff development and quality teaching.

The Roanoke Rapids Graded School District does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, or national origin in admission to, access to, and treatment in its programs and activities. The 504 and Title IX Coordinator have been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The coordinator may be contacted at 536 Hamilton Street, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870, and at 252-519-7100.

### **Roanoke Rapids High School Schedules**

Regular Schedule	Early Release Schedule	Two-Hour Delay Schedule
8:25 - 8:30 Report to Period 1 8:30 - 9:55 Period 1	8:25 - 8:30 Report to Period 1 8:30 - 9:04 Period 1	10:25 - 10:30 Report to Period 1 10:30 - 11:25 Period 1
9:55 - 10:00 Report to Period 2 10:00 - 11:25 Period 2	9:04 - 9:09 Report to Period 2 9:09 - 9:43 Period 2	<b>11:25 - 12:35 Jacket Time</b> 11:25 - 11:30 Report to JTA 11:30 - 12:00 JTA
<b>11:25 - 12:35 Jacket Time</b> 11:25 - 11:30 Report to JTA 11:30 - 12:00 JTA	9:43 - 9:48 Report to Period 3 9:48 - 10:22 Period 3	12:00 - 12:05 Report to JTB 12:05 - 12:35 JTB
12:00 - 12:05 Report to JTB 12:05 - 12:35 JTB	10:22 - 10:27 Report to Period 4 10:27 - 11:00 Period 4	12:35 - 12:40 Report to Period 2 12:40 - 1:35 Period 2
12:35 - 12:40 Report to Period 3 12:40 - 2:05 Period 3	<b>11:00 - 12:00 Jacket Time</b> 11:00 - 11:30 JTA 11:30 - 12:00 JTB	1:35 - 1:40 Report to Period 3 1:40 - 2:35 Period 3
2:05 - 2:10 Report to Period 4 2:10 - 3:35 Period 4		2:35 - 2:40 Report to Period 4 2:40 - 3:35 Period 4

#### Jacket Time Block

Roanoke Rapids High School offers Jacket Time Block, an extended single lunch period. Students have the opportunity to have lunch and participate in an array of activities offered during Jacket Time Block. Such activities may include but are not limited to, tutorials during the teachers' scheduled times (twice a week), intramural sports, clubs/organizations offered through RRHS, departmental offerings such as guest speakers, career speakers/programs, ACT and WorkKeys Prep sessions, and grade-level meetings.

Students may bring lunch from home or purchase lunch from Child Nutrition Services (Cafeteria). If **parents bring lunch for a student, it should be dropped off in the office.** Prior arrangements should be made with the student to pick up his/her lunch. **Students will not be called to the office to pick up food.** 

Seniors may leave campus on non-homeroom days with an approved off-campus application. Only seniors who are in good academic standing in all of their classes are eligible for an off-campus lunch pass. It is the responsibility of the student to have a parent contact the administrative office if he/she is not able to return to school after lunch due to an illness. Students who are assigned off-campus should remain off-campus during Jacket Time unless they are scheduled for a required tutorial or meeting. This is a privilege that can be revoked at administrative discretion due to grades, attendance, or as a disciplinary measure.

#### **Reminders:**

- Students must sign up for Jacket Time between 9 pm and 10 am
- Students should ALWAYS follow their schedule
- Check your schedule before JTA (usually at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> period)
- Students are to remain on campus during both Jacket Time Sessions. Leaving campus will result in a referral and 2 days of ISS.
- Not signing up for Jacket Time will result in 1 day of Lunch Detention
- Not attending the correct Jacket Time will result in 1 day of Lunch Detention
- Not attending assigned Lunch Detention:
  - 1st offense 1 day after school detention
  - 2nd offense 1 day of ISS
  - 3rd offense Additional days of ISS

Students will be required to select their Jacket Time Block activities daily by logging in and choosing their schedule. Teachers can assign tutorials for remediation and interventions for academics. Students should attend tutorials for their classes as needed to ensure they are mastering the standards for each course. **Students should only sign up for tutorials for teachers they currently have each semester.** 

Students with a grade of 70 or below will attend at least 1 tutorial per week until the grade has improved.

Parents are encouraged not to sign out their students during assigned Jacket Time tutorials, these sessions are designated to provide additional needed support for students.

#### Academic Expectations

#### **Promotion Requirements**

To grade 10	5 credits
To grade 11	12 credits
To grade 12	20 credits
To graduate	28 credits

#### **Transfer Student Promotion Standards**

Students who transferred to RRHS need to check with their counselor about the required number of credits for graduation and promotion.

#### **Credit from Other Institutions**

No unit of credit will be accepted from an institution that is not accredited by its regional or state accreditation agency without validation by testing acceptable to the high school administration and in accordance with the policies of the Roanoke Rapids Graded School District.

#### **Summer School**

Because remediation opportunities will be made available during the course of the regular school year, Roanoke Rapids High School summer school will meet only upon the availability of funds.

#### Tests and Examinations

#### **Testing Programs**

Roanoke Rapids High School offers a variety of testing programs, some of which are required, others of which are optional. Tests are given periodically during the school year, and examinations are given at the end of each semester.

Required

- End-of-Course Tests
- Advanced Placement Testing
- ACT
- Pre-ACT
- Work Keys
- CTE Post Assessments
- Final Examinations

**Optional\*** 

- SAT
- Exceptional Children's Testing
- Asset (HCC Assessment Test)
- ASVAB (Military)

\*Encouraged for college-bound students, where applicable.

#### Regulations regarding exams are as follows:

- 1. Students must take exams at the regularly scheduled exam period time unless permission is obtained from the principal or an assistant principal.
- 2. A student who is absent from an exam will be permitted to take the exam at a later time set by the administration.
- No major assignments or major tests will be administered during the week (five school days) prior to the beginning of semester exams. Exceptions: (1) Students with accommodations that are required to take teacher-made exams may take their exam early. (2) CTE courses that require Performance Based Measurements (PBMs) or credential Proof of Learning (POLs).
- 4. Students may be exempt from teacher-made final exams if they have an A average at the end of the semester AND 8 or less total absences (excused or unexcused) OR a B average at the end of the semester AND 4 or less total absences (excused or unexcused). Students may be exempt from teacher-made CTE exams, except for local course options.
- 5. Students can not be exempted from their teacher-made final exams if they receive an Out of School Suspension (OSS) during the semester of that course.
- 6. Students can not be exempted from End of Course Tests (EOCs) or CTE Post assessments/CTE State Assessments (Proof of Learning).
- 7. Student attendance will be taken each day for the class period(s) being tested that day.

#### English as a Second Language (ESL)

Students must complete a Home Language Survey when enrolling in the school system. If they answer "yes" to any of the four questions on the survey, they are screened to determine their level of English proficiency. Instruction is provided to the students according to their proficiency level, and modifications are made in all classrooms. This provides an education that is not compromised because of a language barrier.

#### **Exceptional Children's Program**

The Roanoke Rapids Graded School District complies with mandates of Public Law 94-142 in diagnosing, placing, and educating children with special needs. We serve children who are identified as eligible for services as academically gifted, behaviorally/emotionally handicapped, autistic, hearing impaired, mentally handicapped, multi-handicapped, orthopedically impaired, specific learning disabled, speech/language impaired, and visually impaired. Needed-related services are also available.

To the maximum extent possible, children with special needs will be educated in the regular classroom setting. All records pertaining to special education and related services are confidential and are maintained for five years following the time a child is no longer in need of special education and related services. Parents may obtain copies of this information; however, no one else may have access to this information without written consent.

#### Grading System

#### **Progress Reports**

Two 9-week grading periods constitute a semester. At four and a half week intervals in each grading period, a progress report will be issued to students by classroom teachers and require a parent's signature. Parents and students are encouraged to monitor grades on Parent Portal through the RRGSD app weekly.

#### **Report Cards**

Report cards are issued at the end of each grading period. Along with grades and teacher comments, the reports inform the student and parents of the student's cumulative academic standing as well as class attendance for each course. Report cards are presented to students five school days after the end of the grading period unless that day falls on a Friday. In such cases, report cards are issued the next Monday. Final report cards are mailed home.

#### Parent Portal

Parent Portal allows parents easy online access to their student's grades (updated weekly) and attendance from PowerSchool and acts as a means of communication between the home and the classroom. Parents, please follow the instructions on the district website (<u>http://www.rrgsd.org/</u>) to create a parent account once you have received the parent login information from Roanoke Rapids High School. For additional assistance, please contact Terri Stainback in Guidance.

#### Parent-Teacher Communication

The school encourages parents to utilize Rooms to communicate with teachers and counselors regarding student performance or concerns. Teachers will make every effort to contact a parent/guardian when a student is in danger of failing.

#### Students That Fail Due To Attendance (FFs)

Students who exceed 10 unexcused absences, but are academically passing with a grade of 60 or above, in any course will receive an FF in place of their final grade. Students with FFs will be put on an attendance contract, agreeing to maintain 10 or less unexcused absences, for the following semester. Students who successfully meet the terms of the contract will have their FFs removed and will earn the original final grade.

Students who do not meet the terms of the contract will need to retake the course or complete credit recovery for credit. Final decisions are at the discretion of the Committee.

Please note: FFs impact a student's GPA and athletic eligibility as an F until removed. Successfully retaking a course with an FFwill remove the unsuccessful attempt from a student's GPA calculation. Credit Recovery will not change a student's GPA.

Procedure:

Week before exams - Committee sends out FFs to be entered by Data Manager

Week of exams/teacher workdays - Seniors are held to make up time before Jan./June end of semester Teacher workdays between semesters - FF Contracts from previous semester are evaluated and passing students are submitted to Data Manager

First 10 days of the semester - FF contracts and meetings are held to inform students/parents of the contract requirements/Previous semesters

#### Summary of Standards for Calculating Weighted Grade Point Average and Class Rank

Calculations of weighted grade point averages and class rank are based on a standardization of academic course levels, grading scale, and the weighting of course grades.

*Grade Point Average (GPA)* will be used to determine rank in class, honor roll, and other academic honors. Three levels of courses will be used to determine rank. They provide a fair and equitable method for comparing the academic achievement of students who choose to take standard, honors, or Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

The course weights are the following:

- Standard Courses Standard weight point
- Honors Standard weight point +0.5
- College-Level Standard weight point + 1

#### **Grading Scale**

We operate on a ten point grading scale. There will be no plus/minus or augmented scales. Grades should be reported numerically. This grading scale should also be used with any course taught in middle school that carries high school credit.

90-100 = A 80-89 = B 70-79 = C 60-69 = D 59 and below = F

#### Class Rank

The grade point average and class rank are computed at the end of each semester. Junior Marshals shall be determined by the student's class rank at the end of the fifth semester (this includes all semesters from the beginning of 9th grade until the end of first semester of the 11th grade year). Valedictorian and salutatorian will be determined by the ranking at the end of the seventh semester (which includes the beginning of the 9th grade year until the end of the first semester of the 12<sup>th</sup> grade year).

#### **Basic/Introduction to Standard**

Course content, pace, and academic rigor follows Common Core and essential standards specified by the North Carolina Standard Course of Study (NCSCS) with content enrichment. Such courses provide credit toward a high school diploma and require end-of-course testing where available.

#### Junior Marshals Selection Procedure

The top ten students of the junior class, based on weighted GPA at the end of 5 semesters of high school, are determined and notified in writing on or shortly after March 1.

All honorees are expected to perform certain duties related to graduation activities and adhere to certain standards of conduct that include but are not limited to the following:

- Any junior who, for whatever reason, is suspended from school (OSS) automatically forfeits his position as a marshal.
- Any marshals who, in the opinion of the Senior Class Advisor or the administration, are not fulfilling their responsibilities as junior marshals as set forth in the notification letter, are in danger of forfeiting their position. A conference will be scheduled with the principal or his designee, the Senior Class Advisor, the marshal in question, and at least one of the marshal's parents. Any subsequent infringement of responsibilities will result in automatic dismissal. In the event that a marshal is dismissed, the junior who is next in the line of succession (according to GPA) will assume the role and responsibilities of the displaced marshal.
- Any marshal whose conduct (legal or illegal, in or out of school) is not a credit to Roanoke Rapids High School and in any observable way besmirches the honorable reputation of the group of marshals, will be removed and replaced. Ultimately, the decision to remove and replace a marshal will rest with the principal, after due consultation with the Senior Class Advisor and the marshal in question.

#### Advanced/Honors

Course content, pace, and academic rigor put high expectations on the student and surpass standards specified by NCSCS. Such courses demand a greater independence and responsibility. The courses provide credit toward a high school diploma and require end-of-course testing where available. The state weighting system adds the equivalent of one or 0.5 quality point to the grade earned in such courses.

#### Advanced Placement/College-Level

Course content, pace, and academic rigor are college level as adopted by the College Board and/or by the community college system. AP courses are geared to enable students to pass the advanced placement (AP) test. They provide credit toward a high school diploma and, in cases where the AP course is the first course taken by a student in a subject, an end-of-course test is required if one is offered in the subject. The state weighting system adds the equivalent of one or two quality points to the grade earned in a college-level course.

#### **Procedures for Schedule Changes/Requests**

Students are encouraged to make final decisions on course selections for the next school year during spring registration.

Because of the complexity of a high school schedule, we will not have a "Schedule Change" period when we return to school in the fall. We will have a time period when "Schedule Corrections" are made.

Schedule corrections will be made under one of the following conditions:

- Student received a class he/she did not select on the registration form.
- Student did not receive credit for the prerequisite of a class. For example, a student cannot enroll in English II until he/she has credit for English I.
- Administrative change due to enrollment.

Requests for schedule corrections must be submitted to the appropriate grade level counselor within the first three days of each semester and will require administration approval.

If there is evidence that a student is misplaced (the fact that a student is failing a course does not in itself constitute evidence of misplacement), the teacher must recommend the change and cite evidence for it in writing. A student will be held responsible for work missed in courses added. If a course is dropped, after the first ten days of the semester, a student will receive a grade of 59 or the grade actually earned, whichever is lower. This may also include community college classes and NCVPS classes. The principal or his designee must approve any change(s). Students are expected to attend all assigned courses until they receive word from the courselor.

#### Honor Code

#### **Philosophy Statement**

Honesty is the basis of trust, and trust is the basis of community. Because we, the parents, students, teachers, and staff at Roanoke Rapids High School, want to be a learning community, we must be able to trust one another. We, therefore, reject all dishonest actions, including but not limited to lying, cheating, and stealing. Because we also believe in fairness, we accept the responsibility of consistently holding not only ourselves but also those around us to these standards.

#### For parents:

"I have read the Student Handbook and the accompanying Honor Code, including policies regarding examinations and papers submitted. I have discussed these matters with my child and agree to support the school in enforcing these policies."

#### For students:

"I understand school policies concerning academic integrity and that, as a student at RRHS, I will be subject to discipline if I violate any part of the policy."

#### For teachers, staff, and administrators:

"I understand school policies concerning academic integrity and that, as an educator at RRHS, I will be expected to uphold and model academic integrity."

#### Pledge

"I have upheld the RRHS honor code during the completion of this assignment."

#### **Definitions of Academic Dishonesty**

All forms of academic dishonesty as defined below are strictly forbidden and will result in a zero on the assignment and further disciplinary action.

- 1. Cheating on in-class exams and tests using or attempting to use unauthorized assistance, material, or study aids during an exam, including but not limited to:
  - a. Having or using a "cheat sheet" (i.e., a piece of paper with answers, formulas, information, or notes) that is not specifically authorized by the teacher;
  - b. Gaining or providing unauthorized access to examination materials;
  - c. Providing or receiving information about all or part of an exam, including answers (e.g., telling someone in a subsequent period what was on your exam or being told this information);
  - d. Copying from others or attempting to copy from others by looking at their test;
  - e. Having or using notes, formulas, or other information in a programmable calculator or other electronic device without explicit teacher review and permission;
  - f. Having or using a communication device such as a cell phone or other electronic devices to send or obtain unauthorized information;
  - g. Altering a graded exam and resubmitting it for a better grade without permission.
- 2. Plagiarism in papers and assignments, to include homework and outside projects using the ideas, data, or language of another without specific or proper acknowledgement, including but not limited to:
  - a. Giving or getting improper assistance on an assignment meant to be individual work. (When in doubt, ask.)
  - b. Including in any assignment turned in for credit any materials not based on your own research and writing. This includes:
    - Using the services of a commercial term paper company;
    - Using the services of another student;

- Copying part or all of another person's paper and submitting it as your own for an assignment;
- Submitting the work of a tutor as your own;
- Acting as a provider of paper(s) for a student or students;
- Fabricating lab data without actually having performed the experiment;
- Citing nonexistent sources (articles, books, etc.);
- Claiming direct quotations as your own work;
- Failing to acknowledge paraphrased materials properly via textual attribution, footnotes, endnotes, and/or a bibliography;
- Teacher discretion with proper documentation.
- 3. Other Forms of Academic Dishonesty:
  - a. Misrepresenting your academic accomplishments, such as by tampering with computer records;
  - b. Forging a signature or altering a signed document;
  - c. Facilitating academic dishonesty (i.e., knowingly helping another violate any provision of the Honor Code).

#### **High School Graduation Requirements**

From the time you enter kindergarten, you're getting ready for high school graduation. To make sure you stay on track for a high school diploma, please remember that every high school student must meet state course and credit requirements in addition to any local requirements. To view the state course and credit requirements, look in the blocks below for the section that matches when you entered ninth grade for the first time. Your school counselor is available to answer any questions you may have about what you need to reach your goal of high school graduation.

Content	For Ninth Graders Entering between 2012-13 and 2021 -22	Entering betweenEntering in2012-13 and2021-2022 and		For Ninth Graders Entering in 2021-2022 and Later
Area	FUTURE-READY CORE	FUTURE-READY CORE	FUTURE- READY OCCUPATIONAL	FUTURE- READY OCCUPATIONAL
English	<b>4 Credits</b> I, II, III, IV or a designated combination of 4 courses	<b>4 Credits</b> I, II, III, IV or a designated combination of 4 courses	<b>4 Credits</b> OCS English I, II, III, IV	<b>4 Credits</b> OCS English I, II, III, IV

Mathematics	<b>4 Credits</b> Math I,II,III, and a fourth math course aligned with the student's post-high school plans ( <i>A principal may</i> <i>exempt a student from</i> <i>this math sequence.</i> <i>Exempt students will</i> <i>be required to pass</i> <i>Math I and II and two</i> <i>other application</i> <i>-based math</i> <i>courses.</i> )*	<b>4 Credits</b> Math I,II,III, and a fourth math course aligned with the student's post-high school plans ( <i>A principal may</i> <i>exempt a student from</i> <i>this math sequence.</i> <i>Exempt students will</i> <i>be required to pass</i> <i>Math I and II and two</i> <i>other application</i> <i>-based math</i> <i>courses.</i> )*	<b>3 Credits</b> OCS Introduction to Math I OCS Math I And one of the following Alternate Math II, Personal Finance or Financial Management	<b>3 Credits</b> OCS Introduction to Math I OCS Math I And one of the following Alternate Math II, Personal Finance or Financial Management
Science	<b>3 Credits</b> A physical science course, Biology, Environmental Science	<b>3 Credits</b> A physical science course, Biology, Environmental Science	2 Credits OCS Applied Science OCS Biology	2 Credits OCS Applied Science OCS Biology
Social Studies	<b>4 Credits</b> American History: The Founding Principles, Civics, and Economics[Form erly Civics and Economics] ; American History Parts I and II OR AP U.S. History and one additional social studies elective; and World History	<b>4 Credits</b> Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy, American History OR AP U.S. History, Economics and Personal Finance, and World History	<b>2 Credits</b> American History I and American History II	2 Credits Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy, Economics and Personal Finance, and 150 hours of Employment Preparation Citizenship.

World Languages	Not required for high school graduation. A two-credit minimum is required for admission to a university in the UNC system.	Not required for high school graduation. A two-credit minimum is required for admission to a university in the UNC system.	Not required	Not required
Health and	<b>1 Credit</b>	<b>1 Credit</b>	<b>1 Credit</b>	<b>1 Credit</b>
Physical	Health/Physical	Health/Physical	Health/Physical	Health/Physical
Education	Education	Education	Education	Education

#### Student Behavior and Discipline

#### Philosophy, General Policy, & Responsibility of Roanoke Rapids Graded School District

Good discipline is more than maintenance of school and classroom order. Its ultimate objective is the development of socially approved self-control with due respect for democratically constituted authority. Policies and practices of discipline should promote this broad objective, and at the same time achieve the immediate objective of maintaining the degree of order needed for commendable citizenship and effective instruction.

The school is responsible for educating those students who attend and therefore must establish and enforce guidelines and procedures that provide for reasonable order and an atmosphere where learning can take place. There must be procedures for dealing with inappropriate student behavior, including ones for suspension and expulsion.

We recognize that all students bring to school their own well-developed behavior pattern. The behavior patterns of almost all students are appropriate for school and the activities that take place there. There are some students, however, who behave in inappropriate ways. For most of these students, simple corrective action will affect the appropriate change. For others, more extensive efforts must be made. For a few students the school is neither equipped nor staffed to effect the substantial changes that are needed.

The ultimate responsibility for a student's behavior rests with the student and his parents.

It is further expected that policy and all guidelines and procedures will comply with appropriate state statutes and constitutional provisions.

The teacher's responsibility for discipline is multiple. It involves follow-through on assignments, classroom management, and extracurricular supervision. Second, it is the duty of all staff members to assume responsibility for good order wherever they may be. Every teacher is a disciplinarian during every hour of the school day and in every aspect of the school operation. To overlook an act of misconduct without taking some action is, in a sense, condoning the act and may be interpreted

as an approval of it. Certainty and consistency of corrective action is a better deterrent than severity of action taken once in a while.

Desirable discipline and its counterpart, good school morale, produce several desirable outcomes. Effective teaching and classroom management are the most important ones. Teachers should manage discipline problems without assistance from others whenever practical. However, no teacher should permit a poor discipline situation to continue without seeking the assistance of the proper administrator.

Whenever the conduct of a student becomes detrimental to the process of education, to the welfare of fellow students, or the orderly operation of the school, the principal will confer with the student. If he finds such action necessary, the principal may suspend the student for a period not to exceed ten days, in accordance with local policies and state regulations. Lengthy suspension and expulsion, where indicated, will follow the guidelines set forth by state law.

When a student is guilty of unacceptable conduct that includes violation of any local, state, or federal law, and the violation occurs during school hours or during the time that the student is properly engaged in a school-sponsored activity, the principal may use his judgment to determine whether prosecution through juvenile or district courts is in order.

However, when unacceptable conduct occurs after school hours while the student is engaged in a school-sponsored activity, prosecution in the proper courts will be recommended without exception. The administrator will make every effort to establish and maintain desirable discipline in the school by maintaining and consistently enforcing reasonable and adequate regulations that are effective enough to produce the desired results. When infractions occur, students should know that corrective action will follow without fail.

#### Student Expectations

The following student expectations will be displayed in all classrooms and are fundamental expectations for all students at RRHS:

- Respect the rights and property of others.
- Follow the rules of the Roanoke Rapids Graded School District Discipline Code of Conduct in the RRGSD Student Policies and Regulations.
- Have a positive attitude.
- Be prepared and on time for class.

This Student Code of Conduct in no way limits the prerogative of the school administration and teachers to establish rules not included herein. Unique situations often require special provisions. Specifically, the establishment of procedures for operation of an orderly learning environment must, at best, apply to each situation: the classroom, the cafeteria, a school bus, the library, the lockers, the campus, etc. It is the goal of Roanoke Rapids High School to provide an environment conducive to learning where there is a free exchange of information between teachers and students; an atmosphere of mutual respect among students, faculty, and administration; and an orderly functioning of the various school programs. Each student is encouraged to remember the purpose of being in school. It is important that each student behaves in such a manner that the teacher is able to

fulfill teaching responsibilities with a minimum of time given to correction of misbehavior. *The student is entitled to respectful treatment from faculty members; likewise, the student must accept the fact that the teacher is in charge of the classroom.* Students are required to respond to any reasonable request of a faculty/staff member including being cooperative when asked to give their name to any school personnel.

At RRHS, students receive access to a chromebook in order to work or submit assignments electronically. As this is the only electronic device permitted to be visible in classrooms (as noted below), these devices should be fully charged before the school day commences. Cell phones should be <u>kept out of sight and silent</u> during instructional times.

Cell phones and other personal electronic devices may be used:

- On campus before and after school
- During breakfast and assigned lunch period
- Between instructional times

#### Cell phones and other personal electronic devices MAY NOT be used during:

- Instructional classroom time, including Jacket Time tutorials, assemblies, pep rallies and any other activity, which takes place during the regularly scheduled classroom periods.
- On field trips or excursions, which are conducted during the normal school day and during a regular classroom instructional time.

In order to ensure the integrity of the educational program and protect student privacy, any recording or pictures taken on school premises and posted on social media or shared may be subject to disciplinary action.

Failure to comply with cell phone expectations listed above will result in the disciplinary procedures shared below:

Students whose cell phone is visible during instructional times will be sent to ISS for the remainder of the class period.

1<sup>st</sup> misuse - Cell phone stays with ISS Teacher for the remainder of the class period

2nd misuse - Cell phone stays with the ISS Teacher for the remainder of the school day

3rd misuse - 1 day of ISS

Future misuse - Will result in additional ISS or OSS days

# If a student refuses to comply with the staff's request to hand over the cell phone, the student will be referred for insubordination and receive 2 days of OSS.

\*Parents, if you need to reach your child during the school day, you should call the main office so appropriate contact can be made. Students should not receive texts or phone calls from parents during instructional times.

#### **Bomb Threat or Hoax**

In the event of a threat to person or property, students will be evacuated to a safe area, and local law enforcement agencies will be notified. No individual shall, by any means of communication make a report, knowing or having reason to know that the report is false that there is located on any school premises a device to cause damage or destruction by explosion, blasting, or burning. Violators shall be prosecuted. No student shall place on any school premises with the intent of perpetrating a hoax, any device that would appear to a reasonable person to be a bomb or similar instrument capable of causing injury or damage.

Fire alarm pull stations are to be used in emergency situations only. Anyone pulling an alarm as a prank may be suspended and prosecuted.

#### Bullying

"Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated over time." Bullying will not be tolerated at RRHS. Any such acts will warrant an office referral and an investigation by the administration and/or police officials. The investigation will be conducted to determine the scope and severity of the incident. The findings may result in an out of school suspension, recommended long-term suspension, and/or arrest.

#### **Dress Code**

As we prepare all students for success by providing meaningful, challenging, and engaging learning experiences including preparing them for college and/or career success, the RRHS dress code is as follows:

#### Students Must Wear:

- Tops (shirt, blouse, sweater, sweatshirt, tank, etc.); with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides, under the arms; and
- Bottoms (pants, shorts, skirt, dress, etc.) and
- Footwear.

#### Students Must Not Wear Attire That:

- Is pornographic, contains threats or that promotes illegal or violent conduct;
- Demonstrates hate group association/affiliation and/or uses hate speech targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientations, gender identity, religious affiliation or other protected groups;
- Is provocative or shows private parts (nipples, genitals, buttocks). Private parts must be covered by clothing that is opaque (not able to be seen through);

- Shows skin on the student's abdomen;
- Covers the student's face to the extent that the student is not identifiable (except that worn for religious purposes) or covers the student to the point that they cannot be identified from the front or the back (ski masks, etc.);
- Demonstrates gang association or affiliation;
- May be used as a weapon;
- Reveals visible undergarments;
- Swimsuits, except as required for athletic practice or meet.

#### Additional Dress Code Information:

- Head coverings are not allowed to be worn in the classrooms.
- Headphones and earbuds use is allowed during class changes, lunch, and defined instructional time. For safety purposes, they should only be used in/covering one ear.
- Blankets should not be brought or used at school.
- Sunglasses should not be worn (covering eyes) within the buildings.
- No costumes should be worn, unless related to school events/activities.

Attire worn in observance of a student's religion is not subject to this Administrative Rule.

Some school programs, such as furniture cabinet making, laboratory activities, physical education, and interscholastic athletics may require special hair care, clothing, footwear, or restrictions on jewelry or any other items that could cause harm. Administrators have the final decision as to the appropriateness of all clothing and attire.

The principal is authorized to send offending students home to change their clothing if such clothing is determined by the principal or designee to be inappropriate for educational purposes.

The principal shall exercise appropriate discretion in implementing this policy, including making reasonable accommodations on the basis of the student's religious beliefs or medical conditions.

#### **Public Display of Affection**

There is a time and place for signs of affection. The school does NOT fit either of these criteria. Repeated incidents will result in parental contact and disciplinary action.

#### **Obscene Material and/or Language**

We must all learn to work with others. Part of this "lesson" is to respect others. Therefore, you shall not knowingly possess, distribute, or display materials that are generally considered obscene or offensive. *Profanity* will not be tolerated; you are in high school and should be able to express yourself appropriately. Disciplinary actions may be included at the discretion of the administration.

#### **Disciplinary Measures**

Disciplinary measures vary based upon the seriousness of the infraction. Teachers and school administrators must adhere to the measures prescribed by the policies of the Board of Education of the Roanoke Rapids Graded School District which can be found in the Roanoke Rapids Graded School District Student Policies and Regulations Handbook. When a student is habitually disruptive and beyond the classroom teacher's control, the student may be referred to the office. The proper school administrator will make any necessary investigations into the matter at hand. If disciplinary measures are necessary, the administrator may employ, but is not limited to, one of the following: detentions, in-school suspension (ISS) or out-of-school suspension (OSS). Serious or repeated offenses may result in a recommendation to the superintendent that a student be placed on long-term suspension or expulsion. Disciplinary measures are progressive in application. *RRGSD Policy No. 4130: Search and Seizure* 

#### Philosophy

To maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the safety and welfare of students and school personnel, school authorities may search a student, student lockers, or student automobiles under the circumstances outlined below and may seize any illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials discovered in the search.

As used in this policy, the term "unauthorized" means any item dangerous to the health or safety of students or school personnel; any item disruptive of any lawful function, mission, or process of the school; or any item described as unauthorized in school rules available beforehand to the student.

A student's failure to permit searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action.

#### 1. Personal Searches

A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g., purse, bookbag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials. If a pat down search of a student's person is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex and with an adult witness of the same sex present. If a school official has reasonable suspicion that the student has on his or her person an item imminently dangerous to the student or to others, a more intrusive search of the student's person may be conducted. Such a search may only be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex with an adult witness of the same sex present, and only upon the prior approval of the superintendent or his/her designee unless the health or safety of students will be endangered by the delay which might be caused by following these procedures. Students shall be given a receipt for all items impounded. A parent or guardian shall be notified of the search and any items impounded.

#### 2. Locker Searches

Student lockers are school property and remain at all times under control of the school. Students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. However, periodic general inspections of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason, at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

#### 3. Automobile Searches

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the exteriors of student automobiles on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside. Exterior patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

#### 4. Seizure of Illegal Materials

If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such property may be retained by school officials to be used as evidence in disciplinary proceedings brought by school officials and/or may be turned over to proper legal authorities for disposition or use as evidence in criminal proceedings.

#### 5. Use of Metal Detectors

In view of the escalating presence of weapons in our schools, the Board of Education authorizes the use of hand-held or walk-through metal detectors to check a student's person or personal effects as follows:

School officials or law enforcement officers may conduct metal detector checks of groups of individuals if the checks are done in a minimally intrusive, nondiscriminatory manner (e.g., on all students in a randomly selected class; on every third individual entering an athletic event). Metal detector checks of groups of individuals may not be used to single out a particular individual or category of individuals.

- If a school official or a law enforcement officer has reasonable suspicion to believe that a particular student is in possession of an illegal or unauthorized metal-containing object or weapon, he or she may conduct a metal detector check of the student's person and personal effects.
- A student's failure to permit a metal detector check as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action including possible suspension.
- The superintendent shall develop procedures for implementing this policy.

Legal Reference: G.S. 115C-36; U.S. Const, Amend IV; Adopted: July 8, 1997

### Disciplinary Information/Consequences

#### Offenses by Level

Offense	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Level V
Aggressive Behavior	x	x	x		
Attendance	x	x	x		
Arson			x	x	x
Assault			x		
Bullying or Harassment	x	x	x		
Bus Misconduct	x	x			
Bomb Threats			x	x	x
Buying, Selling, or Trading Items	x				
Cheating or Falsification	x	x			
Communicating Threats	x	x	x		
Disrespectful Behavior	x	x	x		
Disruptive Behavior	x	x			
Dress Code Violation	x	x			
Drugs and Alcohol: Alcohol			x		
Drugs and Alcohol: Paraphernalia		x	x		
Drugs and Alcohol: Use, Influence, or Possession of Drugs			x		
Drugs and Alcohol: Sale or Distribution (Attempt or Actual)			x	x	
Excessive Display of Affection	x	x			
Extortion			x		
False Alarm		x	x		
Fighting			x		
Firearms or Destructive Devices					x
Gambling	x	x			
Gang Related Activity	x	x	x		
Minor Infractions of Classroom and School Rules	x	x			
Noncompliance	x	x	x		
Possession of Contraband	x	x	x		

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Pornographic, Profane, and/or Violent Material	х	х	х		
Sexual Activity: Mutual Sexual Activity		x	x		
Sexual Activity: Sexual Harassment		x	x		
Sexual Activity: Indecent Exposure		x	x		
Sexual Activity: Sexual Assault (not involving rape or sexual offense)			x		
Sexual Activity: Sexual Battery			x	x	
Technology Responsible Use	x	х	x		
Theft	x	x	x		
Tobacco and Vaping Products			x		
Trespassing		x	x		
Unsafe Action	x	x	x		
Use of Wireless Communication Devices	x	х	x		
Vandalism	x	x	x		
Violations of NC Criminal Statutes			x	x	х
Vulgar or Profane Language	x	x	x		
Weapons or Dangerous Instruments (Not Including Firearms)			x	x	

#### **Consequences by Level**

Offenses are given a Level rating based on seriousness; a range of consequences for each level is set forth in this Handbook. If a particular offense may be classified in more than one Level, the administrator should select the appropriate level consequence based on the seriousness of the offense. This is also known as considering aggravating and mitigating factors. Aggravating and mitigating factors are relevant when, in the judgment of responsible school officials, they have a bearing on the student's level of responsibility for the behavior. When both aggravating and mitigating factors are present, principals should exercise their discretion in weighing and balancing them. Administrators should note any relevant aggravating or mitigating factors that led them to choose a particular consequence in the disciplinary write-up.

Examples of aggravating factors, or factors that make an offense more serious:

- Repeated instances of the same misconduct after prior warnings or discipline;
- Not telling the truth when questioned by staff about the incident, or falsely blaming another;
- Causing injury to another or destroying property of others; •
- Inducing others to take part in the prohibited behavior; •
- Repeated and blatant disrespect for school officials;
- Causing a significant disruption of the educational environment.

Examples of mitigating factors, or factors that may merit a lower level consequence:

- Age, maturity level, developmental level of the student;
- Lack of intent:
- Playing a passive or minor role in the offense;
- Truthfulness and taking responsibility; Repairing damage one has caused or making appropriate restitution;
- Respectful cooperation during the investigation and discipline process;
- Lack of recent prior offenses.

#### **Description of Levels**

Level I:

- Classroom interventions These interventions aim to teach and correct behaviors so students can learn and demonstrate safe and respectful behavior. Teachers are encouraged to try a variety of instructional and classroom management strategies.
- MTSS Team interventions These interventions often involve support staff, both school-based and from the community, and aim to engage the student's support system to ensure successful learning and consistency of interventions and change the conditions that contribute to the student's inappropriate behavior or disruptive behavior.

Level II: These interventions can involve the school administration and aim to correct behavior by stressing the seriousness of the behavior while keeping the student in school.

**Level III:** These interventions may involve the short-term removal of a student from the school environment because of the severity of the behavior. The duration of the short-term suspension, if issued, is to be limited as much as practicable while adequately addressing the behavior.

**Level IV and V:** These interventions involve the removal of the student from the school environment because of the severity of the behavior. They may involve the placement of the student in an alternative learning program that provides structure to address behavior. These interventions focus on maintaining the safety of the school environment while supporting the student with ending dangerous behavior.

#### Level I Responses

This list contains some of the interventions that may be used by the classroom teacher or school administrator in addressing student conduct. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Classroom teachers or administrators may choose to use a combination of interventions.

Teacher Issued Consequence:

- Parent Contact
- Teacher Conference with Parent
- Teacher Conference with Student
- Confiscation of Unauthorized Items
- Reteach Expectation
- Student Written Warning
- Teach Replacement Behavior
- Verbal Warning

Administrative Issued Consequence:

- Administrative Conference with Parent
- Administrative Conference with Student
- After School Detention
- Behavior Contract
- Bus Suspension
- Confiscation of Unauthorized Items
- Lunch Detention, recess detention, after school detention, No power block, Jacket Time Detention
- Referral to MTSS Team
- Referral to School-Based Mental Health Services
- Referral to Student Services Team
- Refocus
- Restriction of School Privileges
- Reteach Expectation
- Student Written Warning
- Student Pays Restitution/Work Detail with Parent Permission
- Teach Replacement Behavior
- Verbal Warning

#### Level II Responses

This list contains some of the interventions that may be used by the school administrator in addressing student conduct. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Administrators may choose to use a combination of interventions.

#### **Elementary**

- Choice of Response from Level I
- ISS (In School Suspension) for Up to 5 Days
- ISS Partial Day
- Sent Home Early

#### Middle and High School

- Choice of Response from Level I
- ISS (In School Suspension) for Up to 5 Days (Depending on the number of previous offenses and the severity of the incidence)
- ISS Partial Day
- Sent Home Early
- Incident-related Training Module (First Offense)

#### Level III Responses

This list contains some of the interventions that may be used by the school administrator in addressing student conduct. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Administrators may choose to use a combination of interventions.

#### **Elementary**

- Out of School Suspension (OSS) for Up to 10 Days
- Referral to Mobile Crisis
- Report to Law Enforcement for Offenses Labeled as PD and RO
- Short Term Placement at ACES

#### Middle and High

- Out of School Suspension (OSS) for Up to 10 Days
- Recommendation for Long-Term Suspension Based on Aggravating Factors
- Referral to Mobile Crisis
- Report to Law Enforcement for Offenses Labeled as PD and RO

#### **Level IV Responses**

- OSS with possible recommendation for Long-Term Suspension or long-term alternative placement
- Recommendation for OSS 365 days (Only for Specific firearm Offenses Under State Law)

#### Level V Response

• Expulsion: The indefinite removal of a student from school and all school properties for a student (age14 or older) whose continued presence constitutes a clear threat to other persons or who is a registered sex offender. Expulsion requires a hearing before the Board of Education.

#### Additional Information Regarding Disciplinary Measures

#### **Lunch Detention**

Lunch Detention may be assigned by an administrator or the designated staff member of the Jacket Time program. Lunch Detention will be served for both Jacket Time A and B with students having the opportunity for a school lunch or students are allowed to bring their own lunch from home. Students who are late, leave early, or miss their assigned lunch detention (includes signing out for something other than an appointment - requires doctor's note), will be assigned an after school detention. Phones will be collected upon entering.

#### **After School Detention**

After school detention will be assigned by an administrator. After school detention will run on Wednesdays from 3:45 PM - 4:45 PM. If a student is late, leaves early, or misses their assigned after school detention, a student will receive 1 day of ISS. Phones will be collected upon entering and students are expected to work on assignments. Disruptive/non-compliant students will be asked to leave and further consequences may be assigned.

#### Time Out

Time Out may be assigned by the teacher if the student is disturbing the learning environment and other interventions have failed. The student should report to the designated "Time Out" room for the duration of the class period, and then return to his/her normal class schedule. Phones will be collected upon entering and students are expected to work on assignments. **Excessive "time outs"** (three or more) in one grading period may result in in-school suspension.

#### In-School Suspension (ISS)

Students who receive in-school suspension (ISS) as a consequence of misconduct will be expected to complete assignments in the ISS room during the suspension time. Parent contact will be made. Any misbehavior in ISS will result in parent contact and possible OSS. Any ISS time must be completed before a student is allowed to practice or participate in any extracurricular event. Phones will be collected upon entering and students are expected to work on assignments.

#### **Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)**

Students who receive out-of-school suspension (OSS) as a consequence for misconduct may not return to any Roanoke Rapids Graded School District (RRGSD) property or be involved in any event sponsored or affiliated with RRGSD for the duration of the suspension. Students who fail to comply with this policy will be charged with trespassing.

#### **Notification of Parents**

Parents of students who are disciplined by ISS or OSS will be notified by an administrator. Based upon the type of discipline imposed and the terms of the action taken, parent notification may include a phone call, written communication, or a parent conference.

House Bill 1032 Permissible Use of Restraint and Seclusion. Roanoke Rapids High School will follow the provisions outlined in House Bill 1032 that became effective July 1, 2006. This act addresses the permissible use of seclusion and restraint in public schools. This may be referenced at ncpublicschools.org.

#### Attendance Policy

Attendance is important to help ensure the educational success of your child/ren. In an effort to address the high incidence of chronic absenteeism, Roanoke Rapids Graded School District has updated the attendance and late check-in/check-out procedures. Please make every effort to get your child to school on time and keep them in school.

#### Attendance procedure for unexcused absences

Day 3: Teacher calls student's parent or guardian. A 3 day unexcused attendance letter mailed to the address in power school.

Day 6: Teacher notifies the Community Outreach Liaison (COL) of student absences. COL will contact the parent or guardian and hold an attendance meeting with the parent and administration by telephone or face-to-face. The COL will mail or send home in the student's folder a follow up letter to the parent or guardian summarizing information provided in the meeting with the attendance policy, **Policy Code 4400**: **Attendance**. A 6 day unexcused attendance letter mailed to the address in power school.

Day 10: Truancy court paperwork work will be completed when a student reaches 10 unexcused days. The COL may choose to contact the parent or guardian by telephone or letter notifying them of the 10th unexcused absence and of the truancy filing with the court. A 10 day unexcused attendance letter mailed to the address in power school. The truancy court process will be repeated at the occurrence of each additional 10 unexcused absences. Please note, students over the age of 16 are not covered by truancy laws. Therefore, any student over the age of 16 may be withdrawn if they miss 10 consecutive days.

#### Attendance procedure for unexcused tardies and early checkouts

An accumulation of five (5) unexcused tardies and/or five (5) unexcused early departures shall be equal to one unexcused absence for the purpose of enforcing the compulsory attendance law and addressing a student's excessive absences.

#### Handwritten notes and communication

If your child will be absent, coming in late, or leaving early from school, please notify each of your child's teachers on that day if possible via a handwritten note or our two way messaging service (e.g., Rooms). RRHS students: If checking out early, please turn in the handwritten note prior to 10 am or a parent is required to sign the student out in the school office.

Please send medical documentation or a handwritten note of the absence or early check-out within 1 week (5 business days) of your child's return to school. Please be aware that RRGSD is only allowing handwritten notes for 10 excused absences and 10 excused tardies/ early check-outs. The parent has 1 week (5 business days) once the student returns to school to provide a handwritten note for the excused absence. After the limit of 10 days excused with a handwritten note, the absence, tardy, or early check-out will be considered unexcused without medical documentation.

#### Attendance Procedures for Excessive Absences (grades 9-12)

Eleventh Absence and more: In grades 9-12, a student who is passing academically with a grade of 60 or above and misses more than 10 days in a semester (unexcused) shall not be awarded course credit and receive the grade "FF," except by determination of the principal/designee upon careful review of the student's records. Make-up work shall be assigned by the student's teacher as deemed appropriate. All makeup work shall be completed within a reasonable amount of time as determined by the child's teacher.

#### **Participation in School Activities after Absences**

Students may not participate in after-school activities, including but not limited to musical rehearsals/ concerts, drama rehearsals/ performances, sports events, and school-sponsored social events on days they are absent from school **unless** they (1) present to the administration a doctor's note stating that they are physically able to participate or (2) have administrative approval.

#### Procedure for Signing out before End of the School Day

If students need to leave school early for an acceptable reason, they should follow this procedure:

- A student may provide a handwritten, signed note to the administrative assistant's office when arriving at school to inform staff of their need to leave early. The note must be presented to the administrative assistant's office between 8:10 am and 10:00 am that include the following information:
  - Student name
  - The time that they need to leave
  - Reason for leaving school early
  - Parent name and signature
  - Parent contact number for verification purposes
- Any student who does not provide a handwritten request during the identified time frame to check out may only leave if a parent or legal guardian comes to the office with proper identification to sign them out.
- Students returning to school the same day must sign in at the administrative office before returning to class.
- Students who sign out early from class must make up classwork missed during Jacket Time tutorials.
- If your student is being picked up early by someone not listed as an approved contact, he/she will not be allowed to pick up your student until verification with the parent or guardian has been made. Please make sure your contact information is up-to-date.

The administration requires a doctor's note or other proof of an appointment upon a student's return to school. Court proceedings will only be excused if the student presents a note from the court. Any absences due to educational purposes should be approved by the student's assigned counselor.

#### Failure to sign in and out of school may result in disciplinary action.

#### **Unexcused Tardy Policy**

All students should be in their assigned classroom or location BEFORE the tardy bell rings. Any student who is not in the classroom when the tardy bell rings will be sent to the ISS room for the duration of the class period.

Students will receive an hour lunch detention on their fifth tardy for each class. For example, 5 tardies in first period will equal a lunch detention. Tardies will be reset after the consequence is served or at the end of each semester.

Additional Consequences: Students who are late, leave early, or miss their assigned lunch detention (includes signing out for something other than an appointment - requires doctors note), will be assigned an after school detention. If a student is late, leaves early, or misses their assigned after school detention, a student will receive 1 day of ISS.

Students who miss more than 45 minutes will be marked absent for the class period.

#### **Skipping Policy**

Skipping is defined as any student who leaves campus without following the proper procedures, leaving a classroom without permission, not being where you are scheduled to be, and any act of being out of class that does not involve suspension, absent from school, or being called out of class by the appropriate school official. A student who is already in school and does not report to their assigned class within the first 10 minutes of the class period and does not have a note from the appropriate school personnel will be considered skipping.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense 2 days lunch detention
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense 4 days lunch detention
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense 1 days of ISS
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense 2 days of ISS
- Additional Offenses will result in ISS and/or OSS

#### Sickness/Emergency Dismissals

A student who is sick must secure permission to sign out from the administrative office. The administration will notify a parent and, in life-threatening emergencies, contact emergency medical services.

Routinely, if the parent, legal guardian, or emergency contact person (listed on current school records) cannot be notified, the student will not be allowed to go home. The administration may require that a parent come into the office to sign a student out.

#### **Homebound Services**

Homebound services are provided as part of the regular instructional program to allow a student to complete assignments during a period when severe or prolonged illness or injury prevents regular attendance at school. When a student is on homebound, assignments will be delivered on a regular basis. Questions or concerns may be directed to the teacher. The RRHS nurse will review all homebound requests. Pregnancy is not considered an illness or an injury, so it is not covered by homebound services unless the pregnancy is accompanied by a debilitating condition as certified and specified in writing by a physician. Parents or students wishing to inquire about or request homebound services should contact the counseling center (252-519-7235). Once the homebound services have been authorized, it is the parent's responsibility to notify the homebound coordinator when there is a change in services or when services are no longer needed.

Detailed guidelines of the homebound program and the required medical evaluation form are available upon request from the school nurse. Failure to adhere to the guidelines may result in the discontinuance of services. Students receiving homebound services are considered present when seen by the homebound teacher. Students who are not home when services are scheduled to be rendered will be counted absent.

#### Withdrawal Procedures

A student who wishes to withdraw officially from school must present to the counseling center a written note from a parent or legal guardian verifying permission to withdraw. Students who are

transferring to another school should include in the note the name and address of the school to which they are transferring.

The student should return all books, Chromebook, and charger. Failure to clear such matters or to pay any fees owed will require that the school hold all records until the fulfillment of all responsibilities; likewise, admission to the summer school program and/or enrollment for the following school year will be delayed if the student chooses to seek such admission and/or enrollment.

#### **Other Policies and Procedures**

#### **Arriving and Vacating Campus**

Students are allowed on campus starting at 8:10 am on regular school days. The cafeteria will start serving breakfast to students at 8:10 am. Students are not allowed in the other buildings until the bell rings at 8:25 am. All students should vacate the campus, parking lots, and parking areas around school property by 3:45 p.m. on regular school days.

#### Assemblies

Assemblies are designed for educational as well as entertaining experiences. Among many opportunities, they provide training for formal audience behavior in a large-group setting. Regardless of the type of program, courtesy demands that the student body be respectful and appreciative. On announcement, all underclassmen should stand as the senior class enters the auditorium. All students should be present for assemblies.

#### **Bus Transportation**

School bus transportation is available to students who are eligible based on North Carolina's educational transportation guidelines. Bus concerns may be addressed to the school district's transportation director (536 Hamilton Street; phone 519-7100). Students are expected to behave in accordance with the policies of the school and the school district; failure to cooperate accordingly may result in the loss of the privilege to ride a school bus.

#### **Campus Visitors**

All visitors should report directly to the office. Parents are always welcome to visit the school and are encouraged to do so. All visitors are asked to present identification when they check in at the office with one of the administrators' assistants and obtain a visitor's pass. Other visitors should have a specific appointment with a staff member before coming to the school. Individuals who are not authorized to be on campus are loitering and may be charged by the School Resource Officer for trespassing.

#### **Change of Address or Telephone Number**

The RRGSD requires that every student attending RRHS live within the school district. All students must be domiciled according to the policy adopted by the Roanoke Rapids Board of Education. A student whose address or telephone number changes during the school year should report this information to the administrative office as soon as possible. If either parent is living or capable of caring for a child, a guardian, except in unusual circumstances, may not be appointed for the purpose of conferring a right to attend a school in a system where the parent is not domiciled.

#### **Counseling Center**

The counselors offer services for students who have school or personal concerns. Other special professional services may be secured through the assistance of the counselors. Staff members offer services in planning schedules for upcoming years. Information on jobs, institutions of higher learning, and scholarships are made available to students through the counseling center.

#### **Daily Announcements**

Important information concerning school activities may be conveyed to students by means of the intercom or by publication in the daily bulletin from the administrative office. All announcements must be submitted by faculty. Students should also check their email daily for additional announcements and information.

#### **Errands by Students**

Students should not be sent from the campus during school hours to perform personal errands or act as messengers for staff without written parental permission and administrative approval.

#### Fire and Lock-Down Drills

State law requires that the school conduct regular fire drills each month and a lock-down drill each semester in which all persons are expected to participate. In the event of a drill or an actual alarm, students should follow procedures outlined by the classroom teacher and/or school official.

When the lever is pulled at one of the several fire alarm pull stations on campus, fire trucks are automatically dispatched from the Roanoke Rapids Fire Department. Any person who pulls a fire alarm when no real emergency exists will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

#### First Aid

Assistance for injuries or illness may be obtained from the assistant principals' office or the nurse's office in the counseling center. Minor ailments may be handled there, and parents or other resource persons will be contacted when it appears necessary. Students should not leave class for minor ailments that can be treated at other times. Office personnel are not permitted to issue any internal medication, e.g.Tylenol.

#### Insurance

School accident insurance is available at a moderate cost. At the beginning of the school year, details for obtaining this insurance are available from the homeroom teacher. It is recommended that all athletes purchase the school insurance policy.

#### Lost and Found

Articles that are lost and found should be turned in to the administrative office.

#### 1 to 1 Initiative

RRHS is a 1 to 1 school. Students will be issued a Chromebook to use in all their classes and to take home for educational purposes. Parents will be required to sign a contract that informs them of the policies and procedures of Chromebook usage before the Chromebook is issued and before school begins. If a parent refuses to allow his/her student to take a Chromebook home, then the parent must sign the appropriate form. In that case, students must report to the Media Center each morning before school to sign out a Chromebook and return it to the Media Center after school. Requirements are located in the contract, which is located in the Appendix. Students may also receive a wireless internet device that may be used at home. This is part of the One Million Project grant; more information can be gained by contacting the Media Center Coordinator; Marci Merritt.

#### **Media Center**

The media center provides a varied collection of materials to support the curriculum, to promote literary appreciation, and to appeal to the general interests of students and teachers. The media center contains reference, fiction, audiovisual materials, and audiovisual equipment in addition to a current magazine and newspaper collection.

Students may use the media center from 8:25 a.m. until 3:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. Students are required to have passes from teachers to enter during class. Times for checking out and renewing books, as well as collecting fines, damage fees, and replacement costs for materials, are determined by the coordinator.

#### Internet (Telecommunications)

Use of the Internet from school computers is restricted to those students who have completed and submitted the *Acceptable Use Policy*, properly signed by the student and a parent/guardian, to the media center coordinator. Copies of the Acceptable *Use Policy* are available in the media center. Further, Internet use is restricted to academic purposes. Students who violate this rule could lose computer access privileges along with any wireless internet device that may had been provided by RRGSD.

#### **Internet Policy**

Internet access will be done in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Use must be in support of the educational objectives, in compliance with the student behavior guidelines, and adhere to the staff professional standards of the RRGSD. Transmission of material in violation of any federal or state regulation is prohibited. Unacceptable uses include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) violating copyright laws, (b) forwarding personal communications without the author's prior consent, (c) viewing or using material or language that is threatening or obscene, (d) distributing material protected by trade secret, (e) utilizing the Internet for commercial purpose, and/or (f) providing political or campaign information. Violation of the Internet Policy shall result in discontinued use of the Internet and out-of school-suspension.

#### **Student Parking**

The student parking lot is limited to those students who have an assigned space and have paid the \$20 parking fee. Information regarding reserving a parking space in the lot may be obtained from the student council. Underclassmen must park in the school parking lot on Jefferson Street (old Patterson Mill) or in public spaces as available. *Students are subject to school policy while parked in public spaces*. Students are to exit their cars immediately upon arrival at school. There will be **no loitering** in the parking lots. Students and their parents are reminded that other parking spaces on campus are reserved for faculty and staff. Parking in these reserved spaces should not occur between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Students who violate parking regulations may be penalized and are subject to having their vehicle towed at the owner's expense.

Students who are habitually tardy to school or Seniors returning late from Open Lunch with Jacket Time may lose their parking privileges.

#### **Problem Solving Team**

Roanoke Rapids High School offers a Problem Solving Team to provide education, assistance, and support for students who are having difficulty at school. Information regarding this program may be obtained from teachers, counselors, or the administration.

#### **Political Activity**

The Board of Education recognizes the right of citizens to engage in political activity. However, the board cannot allow school property and school time to be used for political purposes. No political circulars, petitions, or similar materials may be posted, distributed, or otherwise handled on school premises. None of the restrictions in this policy apply to student elections or to the study and discussion of politics and political issues when appropriate in the classroom.

#### **RRHS Junior-Senior Prom Guidelines**

The Roanoke Rapids High School Junior - Senior Prom is an annual event put on for the Senior class by the Junior class. All RRHS Juniors and Seniors who are not currently on suspension are eligible to attend the Prom.

Prom will be held on a Saturday in April. The doors will open for Prom at 8:30pm and close at 9:00pm. Students will not be admitted after 9:00pm without special administrator permission. Students and guests will need to present a photo ID at the door. Prom will end at Midnight. For safety purposes, we ask that students leaving the prom before 11:00pm to sign out. RRHS's Prom is a formal event and formal dress will be expected of all attendees.

All Juniors and Seniors planning to attend Prom will need to purchase tickets. Generally, early ticket sales at a reduced price will be offered. All ticket sales are final. Once purchased, Prom tickets are non-refundable. Each Prom ticket, whether for a student or a guest, is inscribed with the purchaser's name and cannot be traded or sold to other students. Prom-goers who wish to bring a guest (an RRHS sophomore or freshman, a student from another school, or graduated student) must fill out a guest form in addition to purchasing a guest ticket. All guests who are not RRHS students will be required to provide an academic or professional reference. Guest forms will be available at all ticket sales and must be returned by the date specified on the form (generally two weeks before Prom). Guest forms turned in late will incur an additional fee of \$15 on top of the guest ticket price. Although held off campus, Prom is a RRHS sponsored event and all school and district rules, guidelines, and consequences will be enforced.

Questions about Roanoke Rapids High School's Prom can be directed to the Junior Class advisors.

#### **Restroom Visits during Class**

Restroom visits should be made before school, during class changes, and during lunch. No more than one student at a time is permitted in a bathroom stall. More than one student in a stall will result in disciplinary action for all violators. In addition, violators are subject to administrative search.

1st offense: Lunch Detention and Parent Contact 2nd offense: 2 Days ISS with Parent Contact 3rd offense: 1 Day OSS with Parent Contact

#### Selling by Students

It is in violation of school policy for a student to engage in selling any items during the school day unless such activity is approved by the principal. If food is approved for selling as a fundraiser, selling cannot occur before 3:35 p.m.

#### **Student Records**

Student directory information may be shared without parental permission with anyone having a legitimate reason for needing the information. Military recruiters may request directory information about our students. As a parent, if you want your child's directory information withheld from military recruiters, please contact the counseling center (519-7235) to complete the *Student Refusal Form for Military Recruiter Information Requests*.

#### Surveillance Cameras

Roanoke Rapids High School has several inside/outside surveillance cameras that allow us to monitor parts of the campus and parking lots. They are monitored periodically throughout the school day to help keep the campus safe. They may also be monitored during after school hours.

#### **Theft Prevention**

Students should recognize the risk of bringing valuable items to school. If it is necessary to have such items during the school day, students should take every precaution to secure such items in lockers or keep them in their personal possession. It is the responsibility of the student to use good judgment to prevent theft. Any theft that occurs should be reported to the supervising teacher and/or the principal or an assistant principal.

#### Telephone/Cell Phone Use

Student use of school telephones should be limited to calls for emergency reasons only. Permission to use a telephone must be received from the appropriate school official. Cell phone use is not permitted in the classrooms and are to be placed in cell phone holding stations within the classrooms. \* See Student Behavior for additional information

#### Nutrition

#### Breakfast Program

Breakfast is available in the school cafeteria beginning at 8:10 a.m. Free breakfasts are available for all students.

#### Lunch Policy

Roanoke Rapids High School offers students the ability to choose a lunch during Jacket Time Block, (See the Jacket Time Block section.) Free lunches are available for all students.

Students with medical conditions requiring food or drink at times other than scheduled lunches or breaks are required to submit a doctor's note to that effect to the school nurse's office.

# Any cafeteria fees accumulated in prior years must be paid to attend school dances and to graduate. These fees will accumulate from year to year for each student.

- If parents bring lunch for a student, it should be dropped off in the office. Prior arrangements should be made with the student to pick up his/her lunch. Students will not be called to the office to pick up food. This policy has been established for the safety and protection of students.
- No deliveries for students will be allowed from food delivery services, such as DoorDash, GrubHub, or other delivery companies.
- Students, please be respectful during your lunch time and dispose of all trash in appropriate waste containers. If trash is not disposed of properly, Jacket Time Block may be suspended.
- During inclement weather, students will remain in designated indoor areas.

 Students are not allowed to converse with or otherwise visit with any non-school person during the lunch periods.

Violations of the rules governing students during breakfast and lunch periods will result in disciplinary action in accordance with school policy.

# Food Allergy Basics

### 8 Most Common Food Allergens

- Milk
- Eggs
- Peanuts
- Tree Nuts
- Soy
- Wheat
- Fish
- Shellfish

Note: Any food can cause a reaction

# Know the Difference

#### Food Intolerance

when the body has difficulty digesting a certain food the immune system is not affected

#### Food Allergy

an immune system response to a certain food

#### Anaphylaxis

a sudden, severe allergic reaction that can cause difficulty breathing, tongue and throat swelling even DEATH

# What Does an Allergic Reaction Look Like?

- Hives
- Puffy face, lips, or tongue
- Itchy red skin
- Hard to breathe
- Tight throat
- Hard to swallow

- Tummy ache
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting (Throwing-up)
- Weakness (drop in blood pressure)

In case of an Allergic Reaction

#### Athletic Expectations

Welcome to the athletic program at Roanoke Rapids High School! You are about to join a program that has a long history of achievement and excellence. Many athletes who have preceded you have provided RRHS with a reputation that is highly regarded in high school athletics. We hope your involvement in this program will provide you with many rewarding and worthwhile experiences and that perhaps you, too, can make a contribution that will further enhance the reputation of RRHS and its athletic program.

# For more information regarding RRHS Athletics, including academic eligibility, please refer to the RRHS Athletic Handbook or reach out to our Athletic Director.

Fall	Winter	Spring
Cheerleading Men's and Women's Cross Country Football Men's Soccer Women's Tennis Volleyball Women's Golf	Men's and Women's Basketball Cheerleading Men's and Women's Swimming Wrestling	Baseball Softball Men's Golf Women's Soccer Men's Tennis Men's and Women's Track

#### **Sports Offered at RRHS**

#### Beliefs

We believe the extracurricular activities program is for all students.

We believe that extracurricular activities are an integral part of the total educational program and a unique part of the high school experience.

We believe extracurricular activities teach students many invaluable, intangible traits that are necessary for a more productive life in our society such as, but not limited to, leadership skills, self-discipline, commitment, loyalty, responsibility, sportsmanship, teamwork, a strong work ethic, and being prepared.

We believe participation in extracurricular activities enhances student academic performance and school attendance.

We believe extracurricular activities have a positive effect upon the participant's self-image, mental alertness, social competence, and ethical awareness.

We believe that the spirit of competition and the will to excel are some of the necessary elements associated with extracurricular activities. These elements are valuable in the development of a healthy mind and a productive American citizen.

#### Objectives

- To provide our participants with the best possible administration, supervision, and instruction available.
- To provide our participants with a safe playing environment.
- To provide a fan-friendly environment for all spectators.
- To provide our participants with safe, quality transportation to and from all competitions and activities.
- To provide our participants with proper funding to meet all their needs in the extracurricular arena.

#### Sports Club

Parents are encouraged to join the RRHS Sports Club. There are no membership dues. Meetings are held once a month. Check the athletic website for meeting dates and times. The Sports Club is made up of parents who support our athletic program by raising money and helping maintain facilities. The club provides additional funding for athletic team needs that the school cannot cover.

#### **Fans Expectations**

- Realize that a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest and support athletic activities, not a license to verbally assault others.
- Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting teams in every manner possible, including content of cheers and signs.
- Recognize and acknowledge good performances by athletes on either team.
- Give support to those participating in, conducting, and/or officiating the athletic event.
- Respect the judgment and strategy of the coaches.

Any visitor to a school or school event who violates any of our athletic expectations will be asked to leave (No Refund-No Readmission) and may lose the privilege of coming on campus and/or attending school events in the future.

#### **Conference Sportsmanship Statement**

The Big East Conference has developed a sportsmanship statement for its schools to follow. It states: Coaches and student-athletes of conference schools, as well as individuals employed by or associated with the conference schools, parents, fans, patrons, and boosters, shall conduct themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their behavior shall at all times reflect the high standards of honor and dignity that characterize participation in high school athletes. Schools should adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, citizenship, honesty, and responsibility. It is the responsibility of each conference school to promote and expect spectators at events to conduct themselves so as to model good sportsmanship and citizenship. Good sportsmanship requires that everyone be treated with respect. This includes members of the opposing team, teammates, officials, coaches, administrators, and spectators. This applies to student spectators as well as adult spectators. Harassing, degrading or heckling players, participants, or referees will not be tolerated.

#### **Student Opportunities**

#### **Clubs and Organizations**

All clubs and organizations must be approved by the principal and must provide a list of the names of the sponsor(s), members, and the meeting place. Any club or organization must have its constitution approved by the principal.

Following is a list of clubs and organizations and a brief description of each:

#### Art Guild

The Art Guild is organized to provide interested students with additional art experiences through crafts, guest speakers, and a field trip to a museum. Members also participate in several school- and community-service projects. Membership is not restricted to students enrolled in art classes.

#### Book Club

The teen book club is a joint club between the Roanoke Rapids Public Library and the RRHS library. Members meet weekly to book talk and critique books they have read. The book club is one of the newest and fastest growing organizations on campus and is open to all RRHS students. If you enjoy reading, this club is for you.

#### DECA

An Association of Marketing Students DECA is a co-curricular club available to all students who are currently enrolled in marketing education courses. Its purpose is to prepare leaders in marketing, management, and entrepreneurship through leadership workshops, civic activities, social activities, and vocational understanding. All DECA members are given the opportunity to use competencies learned in the classroom by participating in competitions at district, state, and national levels.

#### Key Club

The Key Club is a service organization affiliated with Kiwanis International. The Key Club's goals are to serve home, school, and community by performing worthy and beneficial projects and to develop initiative, leadership, and a sense of pride achieved by serving others.

#### **Monogram Club**

The purposes of the club are to honor deserving participants for their contributions to RRHS athletics and to perform athletically oriented services for RRHS.

#### **NHS (National Honor Society)**

NHS promotes recognition of students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of academics, character, leadership, and service. Members must have already proved their ability to achieve in academics and are obligated to fulfill service with behavior that is honorable, responsible, and generous to others. Eligible students are invited to join after their sophomore year.

#### Quiz Bowl

The Quiz Bowl is an academic competition involving high schools in approximately 85 counties in North Carolina. Any student in grades 9-12 who is academically inclined, has an affinity for trivia, and is interested in competing for one of the eight quiz bowl team positions may join.

#### **Ro-Masquers**

Ro-Masquers is the drama club of RRHS. Each year, the group organizes to produce or help in the production of some form of dramatic work, either a straight play or a musical. Members are often invited and encouraged to attend plays and tour theaters in the area.

#### Spanish Club

The Spanish Club's purpose is to provide students who have an interest in Spanish the chance to meet together monthly outside the classroom. One or two field trips are taken each year. Any student who is currently enrolled in a Spanish class or who has previously taken Spanish is welcome to join.

#### Skills USA Club

SkillsUSA is the premier student leadership organization in the country with over 300,000 members nationwide. We offer many activities to enrich students, advisors, and professional members throughout the year. The activities include professional and leadership development conferences, competitions that measure both technical and employability skills, and opportunities for scholarships, employment, and networking. Competitive skills and leadership events are held for regional, state, national, and international levels.

#### **Spanish Honor Society**

The Spanish Honor Society is composed of students who have completed at least three semesters of Spanish. To be eligible for membership, candidates must have maintained an average of 90 in Spanish and an overall average of 80 in all other subjects. The purposes of the club are to stimulate an interest in the study of Spanish, to promote a high standard of scholarship, and to reward high scholastic achievement.

#### **Student Council**

The Student Council is open to students in grades 9-12. Leadership opportunities are found in the House of Representatives, Senate (club presidents), Cabinet (appointed positions), and the elected Executive Board. The purpose of the organization is to develop attitudes and practices in good citizenship, to promote harmonious relations throughout the school, to provide orderly direction of school activities, and to promote a better understanding of democratic processes.

#### Tri-M (Modern Music Masters) Honor Society

The Tri-M Honor Society is open to students in grades 10-12 who are outstanding in music, maintain an A average in music classes, and a 3.0 Grade Point Average.

#### Student Awards

#### **Roanoke Rapids Graded School District Scholars**

During a spring reception and ceremony, the school district recognizes students as scholars who meet the following criteria:

- An overall A average through the 3rd nine weeks.
- Extreme discipline situations may exclude a student from the Scholars Recognition Event. Cases will be reviewed and recommendations made at the principal's discretion.

#### Senior Awards

Deserving seniors are recognized each spring during the annual Senior Awards Assembly. The faculty approves senior award winners. Students are encouraged to strive from the beginning of their high school careers to qualify for these special awards. The following are brief descriptions of the possible awards:

#### Arion Music Medal

Presented by the music department to the senior possessing superior musical ability.

#### **Best All-Around**

Given to the senior judged by the faculty as having been most outstanding in scholarship, citizenship, versatility, leadership, and participation in school activities.

#### **Charles T. Patton Scholarship**

Given to the senior who has demonstrated leadership, aptitude, and need, and who intends to pursue an undergraduate degree in the field of education.

#### **Chorus Award**

Given to the senior who has been the most outstanding student in concert choir.

#### **Citizenship Medal**

Given to the senior who in the judgment of the faculty has shown the most outstanding qualities of citizenship during high school; given in recognition of character, dependability, potential leadership, and commendable attitude towards the school.

#### Class of 1929 Award

Given by the Class of 1929 to the senior girl who has achieved the highest scholastic average in grades 9 through 12.

#### **DECA Award**

Presented to the senior who has made the most significant contributions to DECA during the school year; selection is based on the recommendations of the DECA advisors.

#### John Philip Sousa Award

Given by the band to the outstanding senior bandsman; selected by the director.

#### Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award

Awarded to a senior in recognition of noteworthy academic achievement as well as leadership excellence.

#### Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award

Awarded to a senior who has a distinguished record in athletics and has a never-say-die attitude.

#### Marine Corps Semper Fidelis Award

Given to a senior band student who displays traits that Marines consider essential to being a good leader.

#### Math Award

Given by the Roanoke Rapids Rotary Club to the student with the highest average in four math courses taken in grades 9-12.

#### Philip Farrell Memorial Art Award

Presented to the senior who has been an outstanding art student; the award is presented in recognition of creativity, initiative, and cooperation with the school's program; the medal is in memory of Philip Farrell (1972-1989).

#### **Rightmyer Award**

Given by the family of Frank Martin Rightmyer III, Class of 1966, to the senior boy who has achieved the highest scholastic record in grades 9-12.

#### **Ro-Masquers Award**

Presented to the senior who through quality participation has shown inordinate interest in and made significant contributions to school dramatic productions.

#### **Ro-Rap Scholarship Award**

Given in recognition of the senior who has rendered outstanding service to the Ro-Rap program. The award is based on the student's initiative, interest, and exceptional contribution to the production of the yearbook.

#### **Science Achievement Award**

Presented to a senior in recognition of outstanding academic achievement and superior intellectual promise in the field of science.

#### Service Medal

Given to the senior who has rendered outstanding service during high school; given in recognition of exceptional ability, interest, dependability, and initiative toward serving the entire school program in various capacities; the medal is not awarded every year but only when there is, in the opinion of the faculty, a senior who has rendered such service as would merit this distinction.

#### Spanish Honor Society Scholarship

Presented to an outstanding senior member of the Spanish Honor Society.

#### **Spanish Merit Award**

Presented to the senior who has maintained the highest average in Spanish and has achieved the greatest degree of fluency during four or five years of Spanish.

#### State Employees' Credit Union Scholarship

Awarded to a senior who has demonstrated academic achievement, leadership, integrity, and community involvement.

#### U.T. Army Reserve National Scholar-Athlete Award

Recognizes and rewards high school seniors who have led by example and excelled in both the classroom and the athletic arena.

#### Valedictorian/Salutatorian

The valedictorian and salutatorian of the graduating class are determined after the completion of the seventh semester of school. The senior with the highest cumulative, weighted grade point average (GPA) is identified as the valedictorian. The senior with the second highest cumulative, weighted GPA is identified as the salutatorian.

#### William P. Branch Academic Athlete Award

Given by the school in honor of the late principal of RRHS to all senior athletes who have participated in three varsity sports or cheerleading and an additional sport during their senior year and have maintained an 88 or better average during their four years in high school.

#### Writing Award

Presented to the senior who is most proficient in one or more of the four types of writing; chosen by writing samples judged by English teachers.

#### Woodmen of the World Award

Given to a senior who has proved most proficient in American history; recommended by the social studies department on basis of interest, creativity, and depth of knowledge in American history.

#### Other awards may be presented when deemed appropriate by the faculty and administration.

#### Dropout Prevention/Driver's License RRHS Guidelines

North Carolina has legislation that reflects a coordinated statewide effort to motivate and encourage students to complete high school. The revocation of a student's driving permit or license will result if a student is unable to maintain adequate academic progress or drops out of school. The law is in effect August 1, 1998.

#### What State Agencies Are Involved in the Law?

The law specifically identifies several state agencies to work collaboratively in the implementation of the law. The Department of Public Instruction, Division of Motor Vehicles, the Division of Non-Public Schools, and the Community College System are partners in this effort.

#### Who Is Affected by This Legislation?

The new legislation is directed to **ALL** North Carolina students under the age of 18 who are eligible for a driving permit or license. This includes public school, federal school, home school, private school, and community college students.

#### Who Is Not Affected by This Legislation?

Students who have attained a high school diploma, G.E.D., or an adult high school diploma as issued by a community college are not affected by this legislation.

#### **Driving Eligibility Certificate**

There are several changes in the procedures regarding how a student obtains and retains his/her driver's permit. A student will need to have a *Driving Eligibility Certificate* in order to receive a North Carolina driver's permit. The certificate will be issued through the RRHS Guidance/Counseling Center. The Division of Motor Vehicles will **not** issue a driver's permit or license without a *Driving Eligibility Certificate*.

#### What Is Adequate Progress?

A student must have passing grades in 70% or more of his or her classes (three out of four) to be eligible to obtain a permit from the DMV. Adequate academic progress will be evaluated at the midpoint of the semester and at the end of the semester (final grade).

Driver's Education Classes are offered during both the Fall and Spring semesters and during the summer. To be eligible to take the Driver's Education course, students must have passing grades in 70% or more of their classes. See the Driver's Education Program site at: www. RRGSD.org