ROCK HILL HIGH SCHOOL HANDBOOK

2025 - 2026

Rock Hill High School Expectations

"Bearcat PRIDE"

Participation

Active learners are involved. Be here and participate!

Respect

Take care of self, others, and environment.

Integrity

Be honest. Be true to yourself & others. Take responsibility for your actions and words.

Dedication

Be a team player. Demonstrate commitment. Be prepared.

Excellence

Do your personal best. Challenge yourself to go above & beyond. Support the best in all.

Strive to Excel...Not to Equal!

ROCK HILL HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The Rock Hill High School community works to provide a safe, supportive, and challenging learning environment in which each student chooses a unique path to success in a global society.

CORE BELIEFS

- Learning can be achieved by all students and is the chief priority for the school.
- Students have the opportunity to explore and make guided choices in their academic experiences.
- Students are provided guidance from the school community in order to make informed decisions about their future career paths.
- A safe and supportive environment promotes student learning and mutually respectful relationships.
- Students, parents, school staff, and the community are responsible and accountable for the success of the school as a learning organization.

Commitment to continuous improvement must be a primary focus of the learning organization to enable each student to be an adaptive and productive member of global society.

SCHOOL SEAL

In 1933, an official seal for RHHS was designed by Walter C. Sullivan, Principal and Mrs. Clarence M. Kuykendal, Art Teacher.

Symbolism: the open book and quill stands for knowledge received through instruction and study; the lyre, for the musical training available in school; the artist's palette, for art training and aesthetic opportunity; the mask, for training in the dramatic arts; the winged sandal of Mercury, for the learning in all fields, with particular emphasis on academic excellence; the perpetual flame of the lamp, for the limitless opportunities always available to young people of good education.

The motto is Latin Carpe Diem, meaning, in strict translation: "Seize the day" and in a free translation, "Take advantage of all opportunities."

BEARCAT CREED

We strive to serve as we ought; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we have given our best.

ROCK HILL HIGH SCHOOL

320 West Springdale Road, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730
Website Address: http://rh.rock-hill.k12.sc.us/

School Phone 803-981-1300
Fax 803-981-1496
Athletic Department 803-981-1344
Attendance 803-981-1317 & 803-981-1817
Guidance 803-981-1338

Mr. Buddy King – Interim Principal

Administrators

TBA - 9th Grade
Dr. Jessica Wren - 10th Grade
Ms. Kate Edwards - 11th Grade & Textbooks
TBA - 12th Grade & 504 Coordinator
Mr. Timothy Sawyer - Curriculum & Professional Development

Athletic Director

Mr. Eric Rollings

Assistant Athletic Directors

Mr. Michael Gossett
Ms. Aimee Kline

School Counselors

Ms. Kristen Starcher - Career Counselor
Mr. Drew Phillips – Grades 9-12 (A-Ce)
Ms. Karen Jackson – Grades 9-12 (Ch-Gl)
Ms. Mandy Daigle – Grades 9-12 (Go-K)
Ms. Brandi Brown – Grades 9-12 (L-O)
Mr. Bobby Page – Grades 9-12 (P-Sp)
Ms. Kim Neely – Grades 9-12 (St-Z)

Office Staff

Ms. Susie Alexander – Guidance Administrative Assistant
Ms. Heidi Hunsucker – Registrar
Ms. Melanie Cook – Bookkeeper
Mr. Chris Broach - Welcome Center Receptionist
Ms. Casey Grasty – Administrative Assistant to Ms. Edwards & TBA
Ms. Aimee Kline – Athletic Department Administrative Assistant
Ms. Erica Knox – Attendance Clerk/Tardies/Sign Outs
TBA – Attendance Clerk/Excuses/Temp IDs
Ms. Jennifer Stillwell – Administrative Assistant to the Principal
Ms. Victoria Walton – Administrative Assistant to Ms. Wren & Mr. Sawyer

Academic Coach
Mr. Austin Daniel

Graduation Coach
Mr. Alex Fair

Nurse
Ms. Melanie McAteer

Attendance Intervention
Ms. Tonya Mobley

IB Coordinator
Mr. Ian Young

Psychologist
Ms. Jan Brown

Cafeteria Manager
Ms. Jaquesha Code

Job Coach
Mr. Kenneth Malchow

Resource Officer
Officer Blake Haynes

Stepping Stones
Ms. Samantha Sanders

Job Specialist
Ms. Gail Blake

Vision Specialist
Ms. Lori Finnerty

Media Specialist
Mr. Jonathan Ferguson

Dean of Students
Ms. Rebecca Padgett

Safety & Security Officer
Mr. Greg Cook
Mr. Zeke Smith

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Student Identification Cards (Student ID's)
Students are required to have a current student ID on them at all times while on campus. This is used for signing in and out in the attendance office, purchase of student lunches, library checkout, textbook checkout, media center, computer lab entrance, prom ticket purchase, prom entrance, attendance at extracurricular activities, purchase of advanced athletic tickets, etc. Students are allowed to purchase a temporary ID before school and during lunch. Temporary ID's have the students' barcode printed on them and can be scanned. The cost of a temporary ID is $1.00. Students may receive up to **5 temporary IDs,** which will be charged to their student account, if the student is unable to pay at time of receipt.

Textbooks/Equipment
Textbooks, instructional materials, and instructional equipment issued to students become their responsibility. Students are not to leave their book bags or books unattended at anytime. Students are expected to have their textbooks for daily use. Students will be assessed the replacement cost of any unreturned textbooks/equipment.

When students are issued a textbook, they should check the pages for writing, the covers for damage, and the spine of the book for damage. They should report any damages immediately. If the student fails to do this, he/she may be held responsible for previous damages to the book. Please follow all these guidelines to avoid fines/fees. Make sure your name is in the book.

The procedure to follow if a textbook is lost during the semester of use:
If a textbook is not available to the student for use for any reason during the semester, the student must request that another textbook be reissued by signing the Request for Textbook form outside the assistant principal's office so that another textbook can be issued. Reasons that a textbook may not be available include the textbook being lost, being stolen, being damaged, or vandalized. For any of these reasons or others not mentioned, it is the student's responsibility, to whom the book is issued to pay for the textbook.

The student must:
1. Check all locations where the book may have been left.
2. Loaning textbooks is not permitted.
3. Notify his/her teacher that the book is lost.
4. Pay for the lost/damaged textbook.
5. Pay any charges assessed for damages on textbooks.
6. There is a $10 restocking fee for all books recovered past the end of the semester that the book was issued.
7. The student is to report to Ms. Edwards to see if his/her book was found.

If the book is not found, the fee for the textbook must be paid in the registrar or guidance office, before a book is reissued to the student.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ID Fees *Attendance Office*	Replacement ID	$5
	Replacement card holder	$4
	Replacement neck lanyard	$2
	Temporary ID	$1
Athletic Fee *For students listed on a team roster, paid prior to receiving team uniform. See Athletic Administrative Assistant*	Annual athletic fee/ Additional Insurance fee	$60
Lost/Damaged Materials Fees	Textbooks, uniforms, library books, etc.	varies
Textbook Restocking Fee	For recovered late books	$10
Parking Decal	Gold Card holders exempt	$20

Cash, checks or money orders should be made out to Rock Hill High School. Fees/Fines may also be paid online. Link is available on school website. Failure to return materials or pay debts will result in loss of privileges (driving, prom, graduation, extra-curricular clubs or activities).

Insurance
Supplemental insurance is available for all athletes through the school. Forms will be sent home at the beginning of the school year. All athletes are required to purchase the insurance unless the school receives a statement from the parents which specifically assumes the responsibility of the cost of treating athletic injuries.

Lost and Found
Lost and Found is in the Welcome Center. Lost items may be reclaimed upon proper identification. Students may visit the receptionist in the Welcome Center for the purpose of claiming lost items before and after school, or lunch time. Do not come during class time. Items not claimed will be turned over to a charitable organization.

Messages
Classes will not be interrupted to deliver messages during the instructional day. In the case of an emergency, school staff will make an effort to deliver a message at an appropriate time.

Visitors
Parents/visitors are requested to report directly to the Welcome Center upon arrival at school. Only visitors who are on school business will be permitted on the grounds during school hours. Student visitors or family guests will not be permitted to visit the school during lunch or instructional time. All visitors must check in with proper government issued identification. Pursuant to state law, persons entering school property are deemed to have consented to search of their person and property (Act 373 of 1994).

The Welcome Center is open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Parent Notification System
The school will send automated phone messages home when a student is absent from any class or suspended. Messages will also be sent notifying parents of emergency situations, school delays or closings due to inclement weather. The School District App can be downloaded to receive updates.

Care of School Buildings and Grounds
Students at Rock Hill High School should take pride in their school, its appearance, and its care by:

- Placing all trash in the wastebaskets.
- Keeping desks and walls clean.
- Cleaning lunch tables after use and throwing away all trash.
- Exercising special care in the rest rooms to keep them clean at all times.
- Not chewing gum in the buildings.

Package Deliveries
Packages delivered for students or employees must meet these guidelines:

- School personnel must search all package contents.
- No wrapped or sealed packages will be left in the office for students or faculty members.
- The person delivering the package must present a driver's license or picture ID and should be listed as a contact in the student's Powerschool.
- **FOOD is not to be delivered. This includes deliveries from parents, restaurants, Grubhub, Doordash, etc. All students will be given FREE lunch for the 25-26 school year.**
- All deliveries must be made to the Welcome Center.
- No money can be dropped and left for the student.

Special Occasion Deliveries
Special occasion deliveries will not be allowed from individuals or florists. This includes, but is not limited to, Valentine's Day and birthdays.

Salesmen
No salesmen or vendors will be permitted to consult with any student or students except where prior written permission from the District Office has been granted. No fliers or pamphlets may be left in boxes or distributed on school grounds.

Before School Waiting Areas
Supervision begins at 8:05 a.m. each morning. Students should not be dropped off before 7:45 a.m. Upon arrival at school all students are to report directly and immediately to the following areas **only**: cafeteria, area directly in front of A-building, covered breezeway area in front of "A" building, or the media center after 8:15 a.m.

Students are not permitted to congregate in front of B, C, and F-building, any areas marked with yellow lines, or remain in cars in the parking lot. These areas are walk-through areas only.
Students in areas without authorization (approved pass) will receive a discipline referral for being in an off-limits area.

After School Waiting Area
Supervision is provided until 4:15 p.m. Car riders must be picked up by 4:15 p.m. each day. When the dismissal bell rings, all students, except those participating in approved school activities, are expected to leave the school premises. Non-bus students who must wait for transportation beyond 4 p.m. shall remain in the designated waiting area, which is in front of A-building, either in the courtyard area or on the walkway by the round rock wall flower bed. Students cannot be in or in front of B, C, or F building after 4:00 p.m.

Entering and Leaving Classrooms
Students should enter/leave their classrooms quietly and in good order. Students should remain in their seats and not leave until dismissed by the teacher. No students are to stand at the door of the classroom or in the hall while waiting for the bell to ring.

Leaving Class for Other Areas of the School
Any student who goes from a class to any other area of the school must have a permit signed by the classroom teacher. The student must have their ID. She/he must go directly and return promptly, returning the permit to the teacher who issued it. The permit must be signed by the contact teacher, showing the time she/he left. Disciplinary action will be taken for improper use of passes.

Students will not be allowed out of class unless it is an emergency. Students should not ask to get water, see another student, teacher, or counselor, etc. during class time. These things should be taken care of before school, lunch time, or after school.

If there are medical reasons for a student to make frequent trips to the rest room or take medication, then it should be supported by a doctor's statement and presented to the nurse as soon as school begins. The nurse will notify the teachers. Requests should be updated annually.

Inclement Weather Procedures
District personnel will be in contact with the S.C. Department of Transportation, weather officials, local law enforcement and the S.C. Highway Patrol to monitor weather conditions. Once information has been shared, district officials will make the decision to close early, cancel school or have a delayed opening.

Parents are encouraged to have a plan in place if school closes early or is delayed. The plan should avoid leaving young children at home unsupervised. It is also the responsibility of parents and employees to determine if conditions

GENERAL INFORMATION

are safe enough to travel to school or work along their commuting route. If school is on a delayed schedule and parents must drop off their children before school is scheduled to begin, parents must accompany their child into the building to ensure that the school is open and supervision is available.

Early Dismissal
If a decision is made to close early, telephone calls will be made to individual schools by district office personnel and announcements will be made to students and staff.

- Parents/guardians will be notified via the district's electronic telephone system, and the district will post information on the district's website (www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us) and on Facebook. Afternoon and evening classes, programs such as Challenger/ Phoenix/Adult Education, extracurricular activities, and sports practices or games will not be held.

Cancellation of School

- A decision will be made by 5:30 a.m. Parents and employees will receive an electronic telephone message, beginning at 6:00 a.m.
- When possible, decisions will be made the evening before to allow parents and employees as much advance notice as possible.
- Notification will include an electronic telephone message. It is the parents responsibility to keep updated telephone numbers on file with your student's school.
- Parents and employees will also be notified through the district's website (www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us), Twitter, and Facebook.
- Local news media, such as Cable News 2, Rock Hill radio station WRHI, and Charlotte television stations WBTV (Channel 3), WSOC (Channel 9), and WCCB (Channel 18) will be notified through security coded telephone calls.

Delayed Openings
When the decision is made to delay the opening time for school, the district will use the same channels of communication in notifying parents and employees as in the "Cancellation of School." Morning sessions for 3-year-olds at The Children's School, for 4-year-olds at the Central CDC and the Applied Technology Center, and family literacy classes at ParentSmart will not be held. Breakfast will not be served, but lunch will be provided. Employees will be expected to arrive at school at the usual but safest time. Some parents will bring their children early, and administrators will need assistance from their staff in providing supervision for students as they arrive.

Crisis Plan
Our Crisis Response plan is designed to minimize danger to anyone occupying our school during an emergency. In addition to a response plan, should an emergency arise, we have many policies and procedures in place to maintain a safe, secure, and orderly school environment. This plan is reviewed annually and communicated to all RHHS staff. To prevent a possible tragedy, we must all cooperate to ensure that everyone knows his/her responsibility in case of fire or other disasters. Students must remain with their classes during an emergency. However, if the student is in the hall, library, or cafeteria during an emergency the student should go to the nearest class and evacuate the building with that class. In most emergencies students will remain and be cared for at school. If the building becomes so dangerous that re-entry is prohibited (gas leak, etc), your child will be transported to the most appropriate alternative location in our area. Should that occur, we ask that parents follow the following procedure: turn your radio or television to the local station, as they will be informed of any emergency. Please DO NOT telephone the school or your student, as we have limited phone lines that MUST be used to respond to the emergency; please DO NOT come to the school unless requested to pick up your students. Excess traffic congestion may hinder the response of emergency vehicles and workers.
Emergency situations are hectic by nature and we ask that parents remain calm and allow the school and public safety staff to handle the situation. It should be noted that students will only be released to the parent or guardian or those listed on the emergency card. We will use our automated Parent Notification System to notify parents of emergencies and give any procedures we need them to follow, so please keep all phone lines clear.

Catawba Nuclear Station Emergency Evacuation
Rock Hill High School is located outside of the initial Catawba Nuclear evacuation zone. Make arrangements pick up your student as soon as you are notified of an evacuation order from Catawba.

SAFETY PROCEDURES
The safety of our students and staff is a priority and as such we may go into a lockout or a lockdown status due to events that are taking place on or off school grounds. When it is necessary to go into a lockout or lockdown status, all doors will be locked and visitors will not be able to gain entry. We ask for your cooperation and will do our best to accommodate your needs as the situation allows.

RELEASE OF STUDENT INFORMATION TO MILITARY
The law requires high schools to give the names and phone numbers of juniors and seniors to military recruiters who could call and encourage them to enlist. Parents can notify schools in writing if they do not want their children's information released. Parents must notify the school in writing by August 31, 2025 if they do not want this information released. Letters must be submitted to the registrar.

PHOTOS & RELEASE OF STUDENT INFORMATION
The following information is releasable upon request at the direction of the student's school principal: the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, photo, subjects of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance (on both annual and daily basis), diplomas and awards received, and the most recent previous education agency or institution attended by the student.

Any parent or guardian of a student attending Rock Hill Schools who would prefer that any or all of the information designated above not be released without the parent's or guardian's prior consent must notify the Office of the Superintendent (P. O. Drawer 10072, Rock Hill, SC 29731) in writing by August 31, 2025. If such notice is given, the school attended by the student must be identified.

STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHS AND WORK SAMPLES ON THE WEBPAGE
Unless written notification is submitted to the Principal, any student work and photographs may be posted on the Rock Hill High School website.

SCHOOL LAB SAFETY CONTRACT
Science is a hands-on laboratory class. You will be doing many laboratory activities which require the use of hazardous chemicals. Safety in the science classroom is the number one priority for students, teachers, and parents. To ensure a safe classroom, a list of rules has been developed and provided to you in a student safety contract. These rules must be followed at all times. A form (given to the student by his/her teacher) must be signed by both the student and a parent or guardian before the student can participate in the laboratory.

CODE OF DRESS POLICY
Rock Hill High School believes that there is a relationship between student attire, classroom behavior, attitude, and achievement. The main objective of this code of dress is to help provide guidelines for appropriate attire as students transition from the classroom environment to the world of work or postsecondary settings.

GOAL/OBJECTIVES: Provide a secure and safe learning environment by:

- Identifying trespassers
- Enhance self-concepts
- Bring more dignity to classrooms
- Increase classroom performance
- Set tone for serious study
- Decrease classroom disruptions
- Erase cultural and economic differences
- Improve attendance
- Reduce gang type influence
- Promote self discipline
- Promote school pride

Responsibility for the dress and appearance of students enrolled in Rock Hill District Three schools primarily rests with parents and the students themselves. Some student apparel may not be appropriate to wear to school even though that same apparel may be appropriate in other settings. Parents are strongly urged to pay particular attention to the cleanliness, modesty and appropriateness of their child's attire. District board policy states that the board reserves the right to bar from school students whose personal appearance is disruptive to the educational process and orderly operation of the school. In order to enforce this policy, the administration has adopted the following guidelines regarding dress. Discretion to formulate a reasonable code of dress is left to the school administration.

The rules below should cover the vast majority of situations that might arise; however, the administration reserves the right to make decisions regarding the appropriateness of any item not specifically covered in this policy**.** The provisions of this policy apply to all students and will be enforced as soon as students arrive on campus.

A student's continued noncompliance of the code of dress will be viewed as defiance and will carry increasingly harsher disciplinary consequences.

STUDENT ATTIRE
Clothing and/or accessories that advertise drugs, alcohol, weapons, anything suggestively profane, obscene, racial, illegal or gang/neighborhood related, may not be worn or brought to school. Items that violate the dress code policy will be confiscated.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Student IDs:

- Your ID card must always be on your person while on campus. You must be able to present the ID if requested. If a student cannot present their ID, they will receive a referral and be instructed to report to the attendance office during class change for purchase of a temporary ID.
- IDs must not have items placed in front of student's picture and name.
- Student IDs may not be altered in anyway.

The cost of a temporary ID is $1.00. Students may receive up to ***5 temporary IDs,*** *which will be charged to their student account, if the student is unable to pay at time of receipt*

Pants/Shorts/Skirts/Skorts:

- Must be worn at the waistline.
- No sagging (wearing of outer pants, shorts, etc. below the waist) will be allowed. It is recommended that all pants with belt loops should be worn with a belt properly buckled at the waistline. If worn properly, pants, shorts, skirts/skorts should not need to be held in place by the student's hands.
- **Clothing shall not reveal bare skin between upper chest and mid thigh**.
- Leggings, jeggings, running pants, yoga pants, spandex, and/or biker shorts may be worn as long as the shirt covers the student's rear end, they are not see through, and meet mid thigh length requirements.
- No bodysuits or cat suits permitted

Shirts/Blouses/Dresses:

- All shirts, blouses, and dresses must have sleeves. No tank tops or sleeveless shirts are permitted.
- Blouses or dresses for females can be worn as the designer intended provided they do not expose the midriff, cleavage and/or undergarments, while seated or standing. Halter tops, off the shoulder blouses, and sheer tops as covers are not permitted.
- Crop Tops are NOT permitted. Tops are required to extend far enough below the beltline so that there is no skin exposed at any point of a student's movement or posture.
- Shirts must be worn under zip up jackets/sweatshirts.

Shoes:

- All students must wear shoes for reasons of safety and health.
- Shoes must be tied, buckled, or worn as the manufacturer intended.
- No bedroom or house shoes are allowed.

Accessories:

- **No blankets, shaws, or wraps are allowed. Any item that can be considered a blanket is not permitted.**
- Hats may be worn in the hallways. It is up to the discretion of each individual teacher if head coverings may be worn in their classroom.
- Hoods cannot be worn inside buildings and classrooms.
- Sunglasses may not be worn in the buildings or classrooms.
- Curlers, combs and picks may not be worn in the hair.
- Bandanas may not be worn or displayed on school property.
- Jewelry with spikes is not permitted. This includes chokers, wristbands, dog leash, chains, etc.
- Items that could be used as a weapon may not be worn or brought to school. Items that violate the dress code policy will be confiscated.
- **Ear buds and headphones are not permitted to be worn during the school day.**
- No ski mask or face coverings should be worn inside the building.
- No face paintings
- No costumes

Miscellaneous:

- Appropriate undergarments must be worn, but not visible.
- Pajamas, pajama pants, and similar lounge wear may not be worn.
- See-through garments including, but not limited to fishnet, mesh or lace shirts or blouses may not be worn without a shirt meeting dress code beneath it.
- Athletic uniforms not meeting school code of dress guidelines cannot be worn during the school day unless wind or sweat suits are worn over uniform.
- Students enrolled in programs at the Applied Technology Center will dress according to appropriate safety guidelines.

TECHNOLOGY (DEVICES)
Students and families should follow the *Rock Hill Schools Mobile Computing Guide,* which can be found on the district website.

GAMING DEVICES, PLAYING CARDS, GAMES, ETC.
Headphones and/or ear buds are not permitted during the school day. Gaming devices should not be visible during school day except at lunch. You should not have your cell phone or ear buds on inside the hallways during class change. Playing cards and dice are not allowed.

POSSESSION/USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES OR DISTRICT-OWNED DEVICES
Code **JICJ** *Issued* **6/23**

Purpose: To establish the basic rules for the board's permission of personal electronic devices or district-owned devices on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses, or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds.

Personal Electronic Device
For purposes of this policy, *personal electronic device* includes, but is not limited to, cell phones; pagers; gaming devices; or other devices that emit an audible signal; vibrate; display a message; display or record an image; or otherwise summon or deliver a communication to the possessor. Personal electronic devices are not permitted to be on or visible during the school day and should be stored in lockers or backpacks while on campus between student arrival and dismissal bell.

Unauthorized use of a personal electronic device may include, but is not limited to, taking pictures or recording without permission, cheating, harassment or bullying, use during any emergency drill, use during unauthorized times, or use for unlawful activities.

A student in possession of a personal electronic device in conflict with this policy will be subject to discipline as provided under administrative rule JICJ-R.

Violations of this policy may result in the confiscation of the device and all its components. Students are not allowed to erase the history or remove the battery, SIM card or any other part of the device before giving it to the school official. Students will receive the phones at the end of the school day.

The district is not responsible for the loss or damage of any personal electronic device brought on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses, or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds.

District-Owned Device

The district may provide students with electronic devices including, but not limited to, tablets or laptop computers in an effort to enhance students' learning experience. The district will determine the device that best suits the needs of the students.

Students will have no expectation of privacy with respect to any information contained on these devices. District-owned devices may contain tracking software to recover lost or stolen devices. Students are not allowed to erase the history or remove the battery, SIM card, or any other part of the device. Students will abide by the district's acceptable use policy (IJNDB) established for the use of technology resources. Students who violate the acceptable use policy or do not follow instructions for the proper use of the device on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses, or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school, whether on or off the school grounds, will be subject to discipline according to administrative rule JICJ-R.

Students are responsible for the care of the district-owned device. Parents/ Legal guardians will cover the cost of damage to or loss of the device. Students will return the device at the end of the school year or when directed by an administrator.

Adopted 7/28/03; Revised 6/28/10, 6/25/12, 8/27/12, 5/23/16, 8/22/16, 6/13/23

Legal References:

S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

Section 59-63-280 - Requires board to adopt a policy on student use of electronic devices.

VAPING/SMOKING/TOBACCO

The possession or use of tobacco products and/or e-cigarettes/vape devices by students on the school campus/facility and at school-sponsored extracurricular activities or events is prohibited by board policy. Students who violate this policy will be disciplined according to the provisions of the student code of conduct. Underage students on campus in possession of tobacco products are subject to legal action as defined by state law. Confiscated items will NOT be returned.

1st Offense

*School Consequences - 2 days of ISS
*Parent Contact
*Successful completion (score of 100 on each of the four modules) of online vaping course (to be taken in ISS). To access the link, contact Alison Hurayt, Prevention Specialist, at ahurayt@keystoneyork,org or 803-323-6384

2nd Offense

*School Consequences - up to 2 days of OSS
*Parent Meeting
*Behavior Contract (signed by parent and student) to include vaping cessation expectations
*Referral to a 2-hour face to face vaping cessation course at a central location

3rd Offense

*School Consequences - up to 3 days of OSS
*Parent Meeting
*Review of behavior contract with student and parent (Revise if needed)
*Referral to individual counseling with Keystone

4th Offense

Recommended for explusion

ALCOHOL/DRUGS

The possession, sale, distribution, or use of a controlled substance by a student on the school grounds, buses, at any school activity, or when off the school campus attending a school-sponsored activity, and/or any other time when the student is under the administrative jurisdiction of the school, is strictly prohibited. The term "use" shall be construed to include being under the influence even though the substance was not consumed while under the jurisdiction of the school. Controlled substances include alcoholic beverages, marijuana, hallucinogenic drugs, illegal narcotics or any other substance that may impair you.

A student may rebut the charge of being under the influence by securing a urinalysis, which substantiates his denial of being under the influence. Such urinalysis shall be secured within two hours and no later than 4 p.m. on that day. The urinalysis may be obtained from a physician or from Keystone. The school will not be responsible for any expenses incurred.

Students who violate any state or federal laws will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency and all suspected illegal substances will be confiscated.

***NOTE: Students who must take prescription medication during school hours must store it in the health room and follow the medication policy.**

DRUG DOG

The Rock Hill School District and the York County Sheriff's Department established a drug prevention program designed to keep our school premises free of controlled substances. An officer of the Sheriff's Department and a dog trained to detect drugs will periodically visit schools to inspect lockers and automobiles parked on the premises.

The program is designed for the dog to sniff property only. However, should a student with a controlled substance on his/her person come close to the dog, the animal will pick up the scent. This may be reason for the principal to investigate further. The principal or his designee and the School Resource Officer will accompany the officer while on school grounds. Students found to be involved with bringing controlled substances to school will be disciplined according to district policies and may be subject to criminal charges.

WEAPONS
Students are prohibited from carrying weapons on school grounds or to school sponsored events or having weapons in their automobiles while on school property. Students using/having weapons while under the jurisdiction of the school will be subject to criminal charges as well as exclusion from school. Mace, pepper spray, chains, spiked bracelets and necklaces, clubs, bats, knives, and guns are considered weapons and SHOULD NOT be on campus or in cars. This includes look a like weapons.

SEARCH & SEIZURE
Administrators and officials may conduct a reasonable search of a person, lockers, desks, vehicles, and personal belongings such as purses, wallets, or satchels/book bags (with or without probable cause) while on school property. (General Assembly of the State of South Carolina Act 373 of 1994).

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT
Student personnel records are managed in a confidential manner as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA).
Regulations and procedures for compliance of this act are provided through school board policy JRA. A copy of this policy is on the district's website (www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us) under the link "District Policies."

Directory Information
The following information is releasable upon request at the discretion of the student's school principal: the student's name, address, telephone number, activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance (on both an annual and daily basis), diplomas and awards received, and the most recent or previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.

Any parent or guardian of a student attending Rock Hill Schools who would prefer that any of the information designated above not be released without the parent's or guardian's prior consent should notify in writing the Office of the Superintendent, Rock Hill Schools, P.O. Drawer 10072, Rock Hill, SC 29731 by the Tuesday following Labor Day. If such notice is given, the school attended by the student will be notified.

Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's educational records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's educational records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the school to amend a record should write the school principal (or appropriate school official), clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to privacy of personally identifiable information in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the school has outsourced services or functions it would otherwise use its own employees to perform (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.
4. Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer. (NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.)

4. The right to file a complaint with the U. S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20202-8520

Notification of Directory Information

The following information is releasable upon request at the discretion of the principal of each school: a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, photo, subjects of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletics teams, dates of attendance (on both an annual and daily basis), diplomas and awards received, and the most recent/previous educational agency or institution attended by the student. Any parent or guardian of a student attending Rock Hill Schools who would prefer that any of the information designated above not be released without the parent's or guardian's prior consent should notify in writing the Office of the Superintendent, Rock Hill Schools, P.O. Drawer 10072, Rock Hill, SC 29731 by the Tuesday following Labor Day. If such notice is given, the school attended will be notified.

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY/NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Code JB Issued 2/08

The Board believes that the district must provide public education in an atmosphere where differences are understood and appreciated. The district should treat all persons fairly, with respect, and without discrimination or threats of violence or abuse.

Every student of this school district will have equal educational opportunities regardless of ethnic or racial background, religious beliefs, sex, disability, immigrant status or English-speaking status and economic or social conditions. The district schools will not refuse to admit or exclude any person based on these criteria. The district will advertise this nondiscrimination policy.

This concept of equal educational opportunity serves as a guide for the board and the staff in making decisions related to school facilities, employment of personnel, selection of educational materials, equipment, curriculum and regulations affecting students. It will be the superintendent's responsibility for developing a plan and providing procedures to assure support of this policy.

Each building principal will be responsible for working with the staff and students in his/her school to ensure equal opportunity for all students in all building level programs and activities.

Adopted 8/26/02, 2/25/08

1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. Section 2000d; and Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Section 1681, et seq.
2. Plyler vs Doe, 1982 Prohibiting denial of immigrant students access to public education on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion or sex.

B.S.C. Code, 1976 as amended:
Section 59-63-40—Discrimination on account of race, creed, color or national origin prohibited.

Policy JIAA Sexual Harassment of Students
Issued 1/16

Purpose: To establish the board's vision for student rights and responsibilities with regard to sexual harassment.

The district prohibits sexual harassment of students by district employees, other students, or third parties. All students and employees must avoid any action or conduct which could be viewed as sexual harassment or inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature. This includes any action or conduct communicated or performed in person, in writing, or electronically through such means that include, but are not limited to, telephones, cell phones, computers, or other telecommunication devices and includes text messaging, instant messaging, and social media.

Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature under any of the following circumstances:

- Submission to such conduct is made either expressly or implicitly a term or condition of a students education.
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for any decisions affecting a student.
- Such conduct has the purpose of effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's education or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school environment.

Any student who feels he/she has been subjected to sexual harassment is encouraged to file a complaint in accordance with administrative rule JIAA-R.

A parent/legal guardian may also file a complaint on behalf of his/her child. All allegations will be investigated promptly, thoroughly, and impartially to determine what occurred. In the interim and at the conclusion of the investigation, appropriate steps will be taken to effectively address the situation.

Any employee or student who is found to have engaged in sexual harassment or inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination in the case of an employee, or expulsion in the case of a student. The district will take appropriate steps to correct or rectify the situation.

The district prohibits retaliation or reprisal in any form against a student who has filed a complaint of sexual harassment.

The identity of the complainant and the facts stated in any complaint will remain confidential.

Adopted 1/25/16

Legal references:
Federal Law:
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C.A. Section 1681, *et seq.*— Prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex.

AR JIAA-R Sexual Harassment of Students

Issued 1/16

These procedures are intended to do the following:

- Discourage employees and students from sexually harassing students of the district
- Promote a harassment-free school environment
- Remedy in a speedy manner any consequences of sexual harassment
- Establish ongoing education and awareness of the problem of sexual harassment.
- Provide information about how to resolve claims of sexual harassment

GENERAL INFORMATION

Definition of Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature under the following conditions:

- Submission to such conduct is made either expressly or implicitly a term or condition of a student's education.
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for educational decisions affecting a student.
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's education or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school environment.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to, verbal harassment, including sexually offensive comments or slurs; physical harassment; physical interference with movement or work; or visual harassment such as sexually offensive cartoons, drawings, posters, images, or video.

Not all behavior with sexual connotations constitutes sexual harassment under federal law. In order to qualify as a complaint under Title OX, sexual harassment must be sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it does one of the following:

- Adversely affects a student's education
- Creates a hostile or abusive educational environment

A one time incident must be severe to rise to the level of sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment is prohibited against members of the same sex as well as against members of the opposite sex.

Behavior Prohibited of All Employees

No employee may condition an individual student's education, educational benefit, or educational opportunity on the student's acquiescence to any of the sexual behaviors defined above.

No employee may retaliate against any student because that student has filed a complaint, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in a sexual harassment investigation, proceeding, or hearing conducted by an authorized agency.

No employee will tolerate a sexually hostile or offensive school environment created by any other employee or student who engages in sexual harassment.

No employee will destroy evidence relevant to an investigation of sexual harassment.

Behavior Prohibited of All Employees and All Students

No employee or student of this district will create a sexually hostile or offensive school environment for any other student by engaging in any sexual harassment.

No employee or student of this district will assist any individual in doing any act which constitutes sexual harassment against any other student.

Obligations of Administrators/Supervisors

Preventive action

The district policy on sexual harassment and this administrative rule will be referenced in employee and student handbooks.

All administrators/supervisors will give a copy of district policy on sexual harassment and this administrative rule to all employees. The district will give a copy of the student handbook to all students.

The district policy on sexual harassment and this administrative rule will be available in each school's media center and the district office.

Annually, administrators/supervisors will ensure that the provisions of the district policy on sexual harassment and this administrative rule, as well as an orientation on the definition of sexual harassment, the procedures for registering a complaint about sexual harassment, and the redress available are reviewed with all employees and students. With regard to students, such review and orientation will take into consideration, and be appropriate to, the students' ages.

The district will make information from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights (OCR) about filing claims of sexual harassment with OCR available through the personnel office.

Annually, the administrators/supervisors will attend a training session on sexual harassment which will cover the definition of sexual harassment, the district's commitment to eliminating and avoiding sexual harassment in the schools, the penalties for engaging in sexual harassment, and the procedures for reporting incidents of sexual harassment.

Investigative/corrective action

Any student who feels that he/she has been the object of sexual harassment is encouraged to file a complaint with the student's principal (except for situations coerced in the following paragraph). Such a complaint may be filed by the student's parent/legal guardian.

Under no circumstances will a student be required to first report allegations of harassment to the principal if that person is the individual the student is accusing of the harassment. In such cases, the student or the student's parent/legal guardian will contact the director of personnel.

The administrator/supervisor will, within three working days, initiate an investigation of any incident of alleged sexual harassment reported to them or observed by them. Personnel will maintain confidentiality throughout the investigation. Only those who have an immediate need to know may be provided the identity of the complainant.

Upon the completion of the investigation, the administrator/supervisor will report in writing the results of any investigation of sexual harassment, including corrective or disciplinary action taken, to the personnel director and to the complainant and/or the complainant's parent/legal guardian.

If an employee or student is determined to have sexually harassed a student, the administrator/supervisor will take whatever disciplinary action he/she determines is warranted, up to and including termination of an employee or expulsion of a student.

Even if the employee has been terminated or the student expelled, the administrator/supervisor will follow up within three months of any reported incident of sexual harassment to determine whether the complainant has been subjected to any further sexual harassment.

The administrator/supervisor having reason to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has been or may be adversely affected by abuse or neglect will report such conduct in accordance with state law and board policy JLF (Student Welfare) on reporting child abuse or neglect.

Obligations of All Employees and Students

All employees and students will report to their immediate supervisor or teacher, respectively, any conduct on the part of non-employees, such as sales representatives, service vendors, or employees from another district, etc. Which is believed to constitute sexual harassment. The supervisor or teacher will report this information in writing to the supervisor of the non-employee for investigation. This information must also be reported to

the appropriate principal and the director of personnel.

All employees and students will cooperate with and maintain the confidentiality of any investigation of alleged acts of sexual harassment conducted by the district or by any appropriate governmental agency.

The district prohibits any action to discourage any student from reporting alleged sexual harassment.

The district prohibits retaliation in any way against an employee or student who has provided information as a witness to an incident of sexual harassment.

The district prohibits retaliation in any way against an employee or student who has provided information as a witness to an incident of sexual harassment.

Policy JICFA Hazing

Issued 1/16

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for maintaining a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing.

The district prohibits hazing by students, staff, and third parties as a part of any school-sponsored activity. All students and employees must avoid any action that could be viewed as planning, directing, encouraging, assisting, or engaging in any hazing activity. Further, no administrator, coach, sponsor, volunteer, or district employee will permit, condone, or tolerate any form of hazing.

For purposes of this policy, state law defines hazing as "the wrongful striking, laying open hand upon, threatening with violence, or offering to do bodily harm by a superior student to a subordinate student with intent to punish or injure the subordinate student, or other unauthorized treatment by the superior student of a subordinate student of a tyrannical, abusive, shameful, insulting, or humiliating nature."

Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group, will be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student willingly participates.

Any student who feels he/she has been subjected to hazing is encouraged to file a complaint. All complaints will be investigated promptly and confidentially. The district prohibits retaliation or reprisal in any form against a student who has filed a complaint of hazing.

Any student or employee who is found to have engaged in hazing will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination in the case of an employee or expulsion in the case of a student. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials. The district will take all other appropriate steps to correct or rectify the situation.

State Board of Education Regulations:

R43-279—Minimum standards of student conduct and disciplinary enforcement procedures to be implemented by local school districts.

Policy JICFAA Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying Issued 1/16

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for maintaining a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

The board prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student by students, staff, and third parties that interfere with or disrupt a student's ability to learn and the school's responsibility to educate its students in a safe and orderly environment whether in a classroom, on school premises, on a school bus or other school related vehicle, at an official school bus stop, at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises, or at another program or function where the school is responsible for the student.

For purposes of this policy, harassment, intimidation, or bullying is defined as a gesture, electronic communication, or a written, verbal, physical, or sexual act reasonably perceived to have the effect of either of the following:

- Harming a student physically or emotionally or damaging a student's property or placing a student in reasonable fear of personal harm or property damage
- Insulting or demeaning a student or group of students causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school
- Demonstrates motivation by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression or a mental, physical, or sensory disability or by any other distinguishing characteristic.

Any student who feels he/she has been subjected to harassment, intimidation, or bullying is encouraged to file a complaint in accordance with procedures established by the superintendent. Complaints will be investigated promptly, thoroughly, and confidentially. All school employees are required to report alleged violations of this policy to the principal or his/her designee. Reports by students or employees may be made anonymously.

The district prohibits retaliation or reprisal in any form against a student or employee who has filed a complaint or report of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The district also prohibits any person from falsely accusing another as a means of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.
The board expects students to conduct themselves in an orderly, courteous, dignified, and respectful manner. Students and employees have a responsibility to know and respect the policies, rules, and regulation of the school and district. Any student or employee who is found to have engaged in the prohibited actions as outlined in this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion in the case of a student or termination in the case of an employee. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials. The district will take all other appropriate steps to correct or rectify the situation.

Students, parents/legal guardians, teachers, and staff members should be aware that the district may take disciplinary actions for conduct initiated and/or created off-campus involving the inappropriate use of the Internet or web-based resources if such conduct poses a threat or substantially interferes with or disrupts the work and discipline of the schools, including discipline for student harassment and bullying.

The superintendent or his/her designee will be responsible for ensuring notice of this policy is provided to students, staff, parents/legal guardians, volunteers, and members of the community, including its applicability to all areas of the school environment as outlined in this policy.

The superintendent or his/her designee will also ensure that a process is established for discussing the district policy with students.

Adopted 1/22/07; Revised 11/28/11, 1/25/16

Legal references:
S. C. Code, 1976, as amended:
Section 16-3-510—Organizations and entities revised (hazing unlawful; definitions).
Section 59-19-90—General powers and duties of school trustees.
Section 59-63—110, *et seq.*—Safe School Climate Act.

Policy JICFB

Gavin's Law (Sexual Extortion) (Student) Issued 12/23

The district is committed to maintaining a learning environment free from intimidating or harassing behavior of any kind, including sexual extortion. In keeping with this commitment, the district prohibits any student, staff, or third parties from engaging in any behavior that would satisfy the definition of sexual extortion or aggravated sexual extortion as described in state law. Further, the district will not tolerate retaliation against a person who has made a report or filed a complaint alleging sexual extortion or who has participated as a witness in an investigation.

Definitions

- *Adult* means a person 18 years or older.
- *Minor* means any person under 18 years of age at the time of the alleged offense.
- *Great bodily injury* means bodily injury which causes a substantial risk of death, or which causes serious, permanent disfigurement or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member or organ.
- *Private image* means an image depicting sexually explicit nudity, sexual activity, or sexual conduct as defined in state law.
- *Image* means a photograph, film, videotape, recording, live transmission, digital or computer generated visual depiction, or any other reproduction made by electronic, mechanical, or other means.
- *Disclose* means exhibit, transfer, publicize, distribute, or reproduce.
- *Sexual extortion* means intentionally and maliciously threatening to release, exhibit, or distribute a private image of another in order to compel or attempt to compel the victim to do any act or refrain from doing an act against his/her will, with the intent to obtain additional private images or anything else of value.

The following information provides descriptions of the different sexual extortion offenses and includes the applicable criminal penalties. The district's authority does not extend to enforcement of criminal penalties. However, the district will assist with the process by notifying the appropriate law enforcement agency of violations as is anticipated by state regulation governing minimum standards of student conduct and disciplinary enforcement procedures to be implemented by local school districts.

Felony Sexual Extortion

A person commits felony sexual extortion if the actor intentionally and maliciously threatens to release, exhibit, or distribute a private image of another in order to compel or attempt to compel the victim to do any act or refrain from doing any act against his/her will, with the intent to obtain additional private images or anything else of value.

A person convicted of felony sexual extortion is subject to the following:

- imprisonment for not more than five years for a first offense
- imprisonment for not more than ten years for a second offense; or
- imprisonment for not more than twenty years for a third or subsequent offense

Aggravated Felony Sexual Extortion

A person commits aggravated felony sexual extortion if the actor intentionally or maliciously threatens to release, exhibit, or distribute a private image of another in order to compel or attempt to compel the victim to do any act or refrain from doing any act against his/her will, with the intent to obtain additional private images or anything else of value and either: the victim is a minor or a vulnerable adult and the person convicted of sexual extortion is an adult; or the victim suffers great bodily injury or death and the finder of fact finds beyond a reasonable doubt that the sexual extortion of the victim was the proximate cause of the great bodily injury or death.

A person convicted of aggravated felony sexual extortion is subject to imprisonment for not more than twenty years.

Misdemeanor Sexual Extortion

A minor convicted of sexual extortion is guilty of a misdemeanor and must be sentenced by the family court. As a condition of sentencing the family court may order behavioral health counseling from an appropriate agency or provider.

Notification

This policy and information regarding Gavin's Law will be communicated through a variety of efforts to educate students, staff, parents/legal guardians, contract and other workers, volunteers, visitors, and other members of the public.

Reporting

Any student who feels he/she has been subjected to sexual extortion is encouraged to file a complaint in accordance with procedures established by the superintendent. Complaints will be investigated promptly, thoroughly, and confidentially. All staff members are required to report alleged violations of this policy to the principal or his/her designee. Reports by students or staff may be made anonymously but formal disciplinary action by the district will not be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

The district prohibits retaliation or reprisal in any form against a student or staff member who has filed a complaint or report of sexual extortion. The district also prohibits any person from falsely accusing another as a means of intimidation, bullying, or harassment.

District Level Discipline

Students, staff, parents/legal guardians, contract and other workers, volunteers, visitors, and other members of the public are required to comply with this policy. The district will enforce this policy through appropriate disciplinary actions for violators.

Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline and graduated consequences, up to and including expulsion, and will be referred to law enforcement officials, as appropriate, consistent with policy JICDA, Code of Conduct.

Staff members found in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination and will be referred to law enforcement officials, as appropriate, consistent with district policy, including GBEB, Staff Conduct and GBEBB, Staff Conduct with Students.

Visitors or volunteers found in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate sanctions and will be referred to law enforcement officials, as appropriate.

Adopted 12/12/23
Legal References:
S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
Section 16-15-305 Disseminating, procuring, or promoting obscenity unlawful; definitions; penalties; obscene material designated contraband.
Section 16-15-375 Applicable definitions.
Section 16-15-430 - Gavin's Law. S.C.
State Board of Education Regulations:
R43-279 - Minimum standards of student conduct and disciplinary enforcement procedures to be implemented by local school districts.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Code **JICDA-R** *Issued* 6/23
Level I – Behavorial Conduct

Disorderly conduct includes any activity in which a student engages that tends to impede orderly classroom procedures or instructional activities, orderly operation of the school, or the frequency or seriousness of which disturb the classroom or school.

Acts of disorderly conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- classroom tardiness
- cheating on examinations or classroom assignments
- lying
- acting in a manner so as to interfere with the instructional process
- abusive or profane language between or among students
- failure to complete assignments or carry out directions
- use of forged notes or excuses
- cutting class
- leaving school without permission
- school tardiness
- truancy
- excessive unexcused absences
- cell phone violation
- dress code violation
- failure to display ID when one is required
- internet violations
- unauthorized or inappropriate use of electronic devices
- unauthorized distribution or presentation of a publication or material

The staff will follow these basic enforcement procedures in instances of disorderly conduct:

*When the staff member observes (or is notified about and verifies) an offense, the staff member will take immediate action to correct the misconduct. The staff member will use an appropriate sanction and maintain a record of the misconduct and the sanction.
*If a particular misconduct is not immediately correctable, the staff member should refer the problem to the appropriate administrator for action specified under this administrative rule.

*The administrator should meet with the reporting staff member, and, if necessary, the student and the parent/legal guardian, and should apply the appropriate disciplinary action.

*The administrator will maintain a complete record of the procedures.

The staff may apply sanctions in cases of disorderly conduct that may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- verbal reprimand
- withdrawal of privileges
- detention
- in-school suspension/recovery room
- out-of-school suspension
- confiscate item
- academic penalty (cheating)

Level II - Disruptive Conduct

Disruptive conduct includes those activities in which students engage that are directed against persons or property and the consequences of which tend to endanger the health or safety of themselves or others in the school. Some instances of disruptive conduct may overlap certain criminal offenses, justifying both administrative sanctions and court proceedings.

The administration may reclassify disorderly conduct (Level I) as disruptive conduct (Level II) if the student frequently engages in (Level I) disorderly conduct offenses.

Acts of disruptive conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- use of an intoxicant
- use or possession of tobacco products or materials
- fighting – Elementary Schools
- inciting others to violence or provoking a fight
- vandalism (minor)
- stealing
- threats against others
- harassment, intimidation, hazing, or bullying
- trespassing

- refusal to obey school personnel or agents (such as volunteer aides or chaperones) whose responsibilities include supervision of students
- possession or use of unauthorized substances
- possession or use of a controlled substance or paraphernalia associated with the use of controlled substances, as defined by law or local school board policy
- illegally occupying or blocking school property in any way with the intent to deprive others of its use
- noncompliance of administrative direction during a school emergency
- unlawful assembly
- failure to cooperate fully with school officials in the investigation of a Level II offense
- disrupting lawful assembly
- bus misconduct
- horseplay, hitting, tripping, or pushing that could cause injuries or damage to property
- Gambling

The staff will follow these basic enforcement procedures in instances of disruptive conduct:

When the administrator observes (or is notified and verifies) an offense, he/she will investigate the circumstances of the misconduct and confer with staff on the extent of the consequences.

The administrator will notify the parent/legal guardian of the student's misconduct and related proceedings. The administrator will meet with the student and, if necessary, the parent/legal guardian, confer with them about the student's misconduct, and apply the appropriate disciplinary action.

The administrator will keep a complete record of the procedures.

If appropriate, school officials should notify law enforcement authorities.

The administration may apply sanctions in cases of disruptive conduct which may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- temporary removal from class
- temporary or permanent removal from bus
- alternative education program
- in-school suspension
- out-of-school suspension
- transfer
- referral to outside agency
- Expulsion
- restitution of property and damages, where appropriate, should be sought by local school authorities

Level III - Criminal or Obscene Conduct

Criminal conduct includes those activities in which students engage that result in violence to themselves or to another's person or property or which pose a direct and serious threat to the safety of themselves or others in the school. These activities usually require administrative actions which result in the immediate removal of the student from the school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the board.

Acts of criminal conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- assault and battery
- extortion
- bomb threat
- false fire alarms
- fighting – Middle and High Schools
- possession/use of fireworks or explosive devices
- failure to report knowledge of weapons or explosive devices to school authorities
- possession, use, or transfer of dangerous weapons
- possession or transfer of look-a-like weapons
- sexual offenses
- sextortion
- vandalism (major)
- theft, possession, or sale of stolen property
- arson
- furnishing or selling unauthorized substances, as defined by board policy
- furnishing, selling, or possession of controlled substances (drugs, narcotics, or poisons)
- distribution, sale, purchase, manufacture, or unlawful possession of a controlled substance while in or within a radius of one-half mile of school grounds
- threatening to take the life of or inflict bodily harm upon a teacher, principal, or members of their immediate family
- Profane or abusive language to staff, including safety officers and school resource officers and volunteers

The staff will follow these basic enforcement procedures in instances of criminal conduct:

*The administrator will contact law enforcement.

*When an administrator observes (or is notified of and verifies) an offense the administrator will confer with the staff involved, apply the appropriate disciplinary action, and if appropriate, meet with the student.

*If warranted, the administrator should immediately remove the student from the school environment. The administrator will notify a parent/legal guardian as soon as possible.

*The first offense by a student of Level III criminal conduct at a middle or high school shall result in an automatic five day suspension and possible criminal charges. A second offense by a student of Level III criminal conduct shall result in referral to the district's alternative learning program, possible criminal charges, or possible expulsion. The student must complete two consecutive semesters without Level II or III offenses before returning to his/her home school.

*Staff will follow established due process procedures when applicable.

*The administrator will keep a complete record of the procedures.

The administration may apply sanctions in cases of criminal conduct that may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- out-of-school suspension
- assignment to alternative schools
- Expulsion
- restitution of property and damages, where appropriate (should be sought by local school authorities)

Extenuating, Mitigating, or Aggravating Circumstances

Administrators are to take appropriate action when student misconduct away from school grounds or school activities has a detrimental effect on the educational environment, safety, or general welfare of students or staff of the district. Student misconduct includes any action performed in person, in writing, or electronically. The administrator should take into consideration the protection of students and staff from the effects of violence, drugs, and/or disruptions. At a minimum, administrators or their designees should meet with the student upon his/her arrival at school, give the student notice of the concerns, and allow the student an opportunity to present his/her side of the story. The administration may either permit the student to attend classes as usual or may take appropriate disciplinary action including, but not limited to, in-school suspension or out-of-school suspension in order to conduct an investigation into the matter. The parents/legal guardians of students will be notified of any action taken by the administration and offered the opportunity for a conference with the administration.

In the event the student is incarcerated based on his/her out-of-school conduct, the principal or his/her designee will notify the student that he/she is to meet with the administration prior to returning to school. At the conclusion of the inquiries to obtain more information on the matter, the administrator or his/her designee should take appropriate action which may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

- returning the student to his/her normal class schedule and removing all evidence of suspension
- placing the student on probation and allowing the student to resume his/her normal class schedule
- placing the student on probation, allowing the student to continue classwork, but restricting the student's participation in extracurricular activities and/or designated school activities; for example, clubs, study halls, pep rallies, student government activities, and so forth suspending the student
- recommending expulsion of the student from regular school and placement in the district's alternative school
- recommending expulsion but allowing access to virtual school programs through the district's alternative school (these students are only allowed on alternative school campus for coursework and exams that require a proctor in a virtual school accessed through our district's alternative school); students not able to successfully enroll will be expelled for the remainder of the school year
- recommending expulsion of the student for the remainder of the year

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

Disciplinary process

Students with disabilities as identified under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) are not exempt from school disciplinary processes, nor are they entitled to remain in a particular educational program when their conduct substantially impairs the education of other children in the program. However, federal and state laws and regulations require the public schools to meet the individual educational needs of a student with a disability to the extent that current educational expertise permits.

Program prescriptions
A staffing committee for students with disabilities as identified under the IDEA may prescribe or prohibit specified disciplinary measures for an individual student by including appropriate provisions in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The committee must take into consideration the student's disabling condition when deciding whether or not staff may use a particular form of discipline. Administrative authorities should observe any such provisions contained in a student with disabilities' individual education plan, except that a staffing committee may not prohibit the initiation of proceedings for suspension or expulsion that are conducted in accordance with regulation.

Suspensions
The administration may suspend a student with disabilities unless a suspension is prohibited by the student's individual education plan. At the end of the suspension, the school should return the student to the same educational placement, if appropriate.

The school may suspend students for up to 10 days during the regular school year for a disciplinary infraction.

However, students who bring weapons to school or a school function, knowingly possess or use illegal drugs or solicit the sale of controlled substances while at school or a school function, or inflict substantial physical injury to another individual in the school environment may be removed for up to 45 days at a time. If the principal and IEP team believe that a child with a disability is substantially likely to injure self or others in the child's regular placement, he/she may petition an impartial due process hearing officer or get a court injunction to order that the child be removed to an interim alternative educational setting for a period up to 45 days.

Expulsions
Expulsion of a student with disabilities is equivalent to a change in educational placement and, therefore, requires special procedures. Before a student with disabilities may be expelled, an IEP team must determine whether or not there is a connection or causal relationship between the disabling condition and the misconduct. If it is determined that there is a causal relationship between the student's misconduct and the student's disability, the student would continue to receive services in the regular school setting. If the behavior is not related to the disability then the student is subject to regular discipline. However, provisions must be made to allow the student to continue to progress in the regular curriculum and meet the goals of the IEP.

The district will continue to provide a free and appropriate education as set forth in a student's IEP to expelled students with disabilities.

Nothing contained in this administrative rule will be construed as limiting an administrator's ability to remove a student with disabilities from school immediately under emergency conditions.

Issued 5/28/90; Revised 8/26/91, 5/29/07, 4/15/11, 2/27/12, 5/23/16, 6/13/23, 12/12/23

EXPULSION OF STUDENTS

Code **JKE** *Issued* **6/23**

Purpose: To establish the board's vision for the expulsion of students.

A student may be expelled for any reason listed in the Student Code of Conduct (policy JICDA) or for the commission of any crime, gross immorality, gross misbehavior, or the violation of any other written policies, rules, or regulations established by the board or the State Board of Education; or when the presence of the student is deemed to be detrimental to the best interest of the school. The Board of Trustees believe in a safe and secure learning environment, thus consider that all students repeatedly engaging in level three criminal conduct shall be better served in an alternative learning setting.

If procedures for expulsion are initiated, the parent/legal guardian of the student will be notified using multiple methods of communication (by phone and in writing) of the time and the place of a hearing before the district hearing officer. The hearing will take place within five school days of the incident barring unforeseen circumstances, such as incarceration, illness, etc., at a time and place designated by the school, unless the parent/legal guardian has requested to delay or if a manifestation determination must be held. A decision will be rendered within three school days of the hearing. The student may be suspended from school and all activities during the time of the expulsion procedures. It is the district's intention to process hearings and appeals in a timely manner in an effort to limit the number of school days missed by the student.

At the hearing, the parents/legal guardian will have the right to legal counsel and to all other regular legal rights, including the right to question witnesses in a manner determined by the district hearing officer. The student and/or parent/legal guardian has the right to appeal the decision of the district hearing officer. The first line of appeal is to the superintendent or his/her designee. The superintendent or his/her designee may provide an opportunity for the expelled student to re-enroll and attend classes at an alternative educational setting. The decision of the superintendent or his/her designee may be appealed to the Rock Hill School District Three of York County Board of Trustees.

Within three school days of the hearing, the hearing officer will notify the student and parent/legal guardian of the decision as to whether the student committed the alleged rule violation(s) or misconduct, based upon the evidence presented at the hearing, and the appropriate consequence. If the hearing officer determines that grounds for expulsion exist, he/she may expel the student for the remainder of the first semester, for the remainder of the current school year, or permanently. With a decision to expel, the hearing officer or the superintendent's designee, may make a recommendation that the student receive an application to attend an alternative program.

The hearing officer will report his/her decision in writing to the student, the parent/legal guardian, the superintendent, and the school. If the hearing officer determines that grounds for expulsion do not exist, absences resulting from the suspension may be excused if appropriate, and the student's record will reflect the decision of the hearing officer. The student will be allowed to make up missed work as appropriate.

A student who has been expelled is not permitted on the grounds of any of the district's schools; not permitted to attend school activities, functions, or events on or off school grounds, except for a prearranged conference with an administrator; and not permitted to board school buses. A student found on school grounds; at school activities, functions or events; or on a school bus, without permission from an administrator, while expelled will be subject to further discipline.

Acts of criminal conduct that may prohibit an expelled student from applying to the alternative program include but are not limited to the following:

- firearm on campus
- selling/distributing drugs on school property or within one-half mile of school grounds
- brandishing a weapon
- threats to take life or inflict bodily harm upon a teacher, principal, or members of their family

serious crimes in the community

Adopted 10/23/89; Revised 5/28/90, 7/28/03, 9/22/08, 10/24/16, 6/22/17, 6/13/23

Legal References:

S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

Section 59-19-90(3) - Authority of board to regulate student conduct.

Section 59-63-210 - Grounds for suspension, expulsion, or transfer.

Section 59-63-235 - Expulsion of student determined to have brought a firearm to school.

Section 59-63-240 - Expulsion hearings.

S.C. Cases:

Davis v. School District of Greenville County, 374 S.C. 39, 647 S.E.2d 219 (2007).

GENERAL INFORMATION

COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES Board Policy (JCE)

Students and/or parents who have complaints or grievances about school matters are to discuss such complaints or grievances with the principal. Once the complaint has been heard and addressed, the decision of the principal may be appealed to the superintendent. The decision of the superintendent or his designee may be appealed to the Board of Education.

The Board will only hear complaints and grievances when such have been presented through proper channels of appeal…i.e. Principal→ Director of Secondary Schools →Superintendent. The Board will resist the impulse to settle disputes through pressure, coercion, or intimidation, nor will they act hastily in a crisis.

The first step in this process is to notify the appropriate assistant principal.

TBA — 9th Grade

Dr. Jessica Wren – 10th Grade

Ms. Kate Edwards – 11th Grade

TBA - 12th Grade

Mr. Timothy Sawyer - Curriculum & Professional Development

SCHOOL COUNSELING AND ACADEMICS

SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES

Each student at RHHS has valuable assets which can be enhanced. An effective guidance and counseling program can assist students in achieving personal and educational fulfillment through discovery, exploration, and development of their potential. Rock Hill High School is fortunate to have qualified guidance counselors who serve students based upon the Comprehensive Developmental Guidance and School Counseling Model, as outlined by state guidelines. Additionally, the counseling department has the direct services of a Career Development Facilitator to assist with career-related activities. Office hours are 8:00 am – 4:00 pm each school day, and the main Guidance Office phone number is 981-1338.

SERVICES

Personal/Social Guidance (Learning to Live) – Counselors spend time collaborating with students about ways to meet the students' goals. Students often seek help from counselors when they are faced with personal challenges, as well.

Academic Guidance (Learning to Learn) – Counselors assist students and parents in obtaining information about academic opportunities available at RHHS. Counselors meet with every student individually each year to assist with selecting proper courses in order to meet post secondary goals. Counselors will ensure that students receive the best possible course placement that allows for the development of strengths, aptitudes, and interests.

Career Exploration (Learning to Work) – The guidance department plans meaningful career exploration activities that give students a chance to connect their experiences in high school to the world of work. These include, but are not limited to workshops, career fairs, career interest assessments, classroom guidance and bringing in outside guest speakers.

Counselors also provide information about SAT/ACT, the military, college, scholarships, summer programs, and local helping agencies, among other topics.

PROCEDURES TO SEE A COUNSELOR

Parents are encouraged to call or email their student's counselor at any time to discuss student progress, concerns, request a conference, etc. at 803-981-1338. If a student has an emergency situation, a counselor will be available at any time. If a student has a non-emergency situation and need to speak to their counselor, they can email them through Canvas or come to the Counseling office during their lunch break.

Subjects	SC Diploma 24 units 4 Year College Prep	SC Diploma 24 units 2 Year College Prep
English	4 CP units	4 units
Math	4 CP units	4 units
Science	3 CP units	3 units
Other Social Studies American History Government Economics	1 unit 1 unit .5 unit .5 unit	1 unit 1 unit .5 unit .5 unit
PE or ROTC	1 unit	1 unit
Computer Science	1 unit	1 unit
Career Specialty	0 units	1 unit
World Language	1 unit NOTE: All 4-year colleges require 2 or 3 units of the same World Language	0 units
Health	1 unit	.5 unit
Personal Finance	.5 unit	.5 unit
Electives	6 units	6 units
Total Units	24 units	24 units

SCHOOL COUNSELING AND ACADEMICS

School Counselors

Mr. Drew Phillips – Grades 9-12 (A-Ce)

aphillips@rhmail.org

Ms. Karen Jackson – Grades 9-12 (Ch-Gl)

kfjackso@rhmail.org

Ms. Mandy Daigle – Grades 9-12 (Go-K)

adaigle@rhmail.org

Ms. Brandi Brown – Grades 9-12 (L-O)

bbrown@rhmail.org

Mr. Bobby Page – Grades 9-12 (P-Sp)

rpage@rhmail.org

Ms. Kim Neely – Grades 9-12 (St-Z)

kneely@rhmail.org

Ms. Kristen Starcher - Career Counselor

kstarcher@rhmail.org

South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions				
Numerical Average	**Letter Grade**	**College Prep Weighting**	**Honors Weighting**	**AP/IB/Dual Credit Weighting**
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800
67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700
66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100
0-50	F	0.000	0.000	0.000
50	WF	0.000	0.000	0.000
50	FA	0.000	0.000	0.000
-	WP	0.000	0.000	0.000

SCHOOL COUNSELING AND ACADEMICS

TRANSFERS/WITHDRAWALS
Parents of students who move or transfer during the school year should contact the registrar prior to the last day of attendance. Students should report to the registrar at the end of their last school day. All textbooks, library materials, and other school property must be returned. All financial obligations should be met prior to enrollment at another educationalinstitution to avoid a delay in transfer of records. Parents are required to come to the school to complete withdrawal.

EARLY GRADUATES
Students are encouraged to make the best of high school and take challenging courses and electives. For those who decide to graduate early, special permission must be granted by the Principal. The application should be submitted to the student's counselor and will be reviewed by the Principal. The request should include student and parent signatures and rationale for finishing coursework early. This must be submitted by October 3, 2025. Students MUST have successfully completed the 24 units required for a diploma to be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony. Early grads will participate in the Winter graduation ceremony; date and time to be announced.

COURSE SELECTION AND INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION PLANS
Beginning in the eighth grade, students and their parents meet with a counselor to select a career cluster based on their interests. This takes place during the annual course selection process. A review and update of the IGP is done annually in grades 9-12. At the end of the 10th grade year, a student will select a career major around which his/her electives will be clustered. Parents are formally invited to participate in the IGP conferences and the course selection process each year. Additional information will be provided to students at the beginning of the registration/course selection process.

CURRICULUM

State mandated uniform grading policies are now in effect for grades 9-12.

2 YEAR COLLEGE PREPARATORY
This curriculum is offered to meet the needs of those who intend to continue their formal education at a two-year college or technical school.

4 YEAR COLLEGE PREPARATORY
This curriculum is offered to meet the needs of those who intend to continue their formal education at a four-year college.

HONORS COURSES
These are advanced courses for college preparatory students. Extra quality points are assigned for each numerical grade earned based on the appropriate grading scale.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES
These courses are designed to enhance the education of academically talented high school students. The courses will enable students to complete requirements for a high school diploma and simultaneously prepare for an examination that, upon successful completion, would lead to college credits at selected colleges and universities. Students must take the AP exam to receive the extra quality points.

DUAL CREDIT
Dual credit courses help students develop an understanding of the motivation and discipline necessary for success in college. Students take courses taught by high school or college instructors either on the Rock Hill High School or College campus. These courses offer high school and college credit so that students can complete college requirements earlier. Extra quality points will be awarded based on the Uniform Grading Scale. Tuition and book fees can be incurred for these courses. Students should understand that they are enrolling in college coursework within these dual credit opportunities and that the credit and grades earned will become a part of their college transcript.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE
Honors classes in 9th and 10th grades and the IB Program in the 11th and 12th grades are intensive courses of study for students who are highly motivated academically. Students who enter this program will be working toward international standards to earn an IB Diploma or Certificate.
Students must take the IB exam to receive the extra quality points.

GIFTED AND TALENTED
Students identified as academically gifted/talented are served through participation in the preparatory International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement classes in the areas of advanced math, language arts, science, social studies and foreign language. Although admission into these classes is self-selecting, students qualifying as gifted/talented on the South Carolina State Department of Education guidelines are encouraged to participate in these academically advanced classes in grades 6-10. At grade 11 students are encouraged to participate in AP, Dual Credit, or International Baccalaureate Program.

SCHOOL COUNSELING AND ACADEMICS

HONOR GRADUATES

Students with outstanding academic performance will be recognized as honor graduates with one of the following accolades:

Valedictorian - The student(s) with the highest adjusted grade point average calculated by dividing the number of quality points earned in high school bearing classes by the total number of credits earned.

Salutatorian - The student(s) of the graduating class with the second highest adjusted grade point average using the method stated above.

Grade point averages will be carried to four decimal places and rounded to three by the computer. Correspondence, independent study, and/or off campus courses not approved by the district prior to the student taking the courses will not be figured into the student's final GPA for valedictorian or salutatorian.

In case of more than one student having the highest or second highest adjusted grade point average, multiple valedictorians or salutatorians will be declared and no attempt will be made to break ties. If there are multiple valedictorians, then all commencement speeches will be given by the valedictorians.

Note: Rock Hill Schools Board of Trustees Policy IKD and IKD-R (Honor Rolls/ Honor Graduates; revised 2022) requires use of an adjusted GPA to determine Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Any courses taken for high school credit in middle school are not included in calculation of the Valedictorian/Salutatorian adjusted GPA.

With highest honors - Those students with a regular GPA of 4.5 or above will receive both written and verbal recognition of "with highest honors" during the commencement exercise. They will wear the honor cord as part of their graduation attire.

With honors - Those students with a regular GPA of at least 4.2 but less than 4.5 will receive both written and verbal recognition of "with honors" during the commencement exercise. In addition, any student who has all A's (grades of 93 or above) since entering high school (ninth grade) will be eligible for honor graduate status.

College Preparatory Course Prerequisite Requirements

For Entering College Freshmen Beginning in Academic Year 2021-22

FOUR UNITS OF ENGLISH: All four units must have strong reading (including works of fiction and non-fiction), writing, communicating, and researching components. It is strongly recommended that students take two units that are literature based, including American, British, and World Literature.

FOUR UNITS OF MATHEMATICS: These units must include Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. A fourth higher-level mathematics unit should be taken before or during the senior year.

THREE UNITS OF LABORATORY SCIENCE: Two units must be taken in two different fields of the physical, earth, or life sciences and selected from among biology, chemistry, physics, or earth science. The third unit may be from the same field as one of the first two units (biology, chemistry, physics, or earth science) or from any laboratory science for which biology, chemistry, physics and/or earth science is a prerequisite. Courses in general or introductory science for which one of these four units is not a prerequisite will not meet this requirement. It's strongly recommended that students desiring to pursue careers in science, mathematics, engineering or technology take one course in all four fields: biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science.

TWO UNITS OF THE SAME WORLD LANGUAGE: Two units with a heavy emphasis on language acquisition.

THREE UNITS OF SOCIAL SCIENCE: One unit of U.S. History, a half unit of Economics, and a half unit of Government are required. World History or Geography is strongly recommended.

ONE UNIT OF FINE ARTS: One unit in appreciation of, history of, or performance in one of the fine arts. This unit should be selected from among media/ digital arts, dance, music, theater, or visual and spatial arts.

ONE UNIT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR ROTC: One unit of physical education to include one semester of personal fitness and another semester in lifetime fitness. Exemption applies to students enrolled in Junior ROTC and for students exempted because of physical disability or for religious reasons.

TWO UNITS OF ELECTIVES: Two units must be taken as electives. A college preparatory course in Computer Science (i.e., one involving significant programming content, not simply keyboarding or using applications) is strongly recommended for this elective. Other acceptable electives include college preparatory courses in English; fine arts; foreign languages; social science; humanities; mathematics; physical education; and laboratory science (courses for which biology, chemistry, physics, or earth science is a prerequisite).

Total: 20

NOTES

1. Each institution may make exceptions in admitting students who do not meet all of the prerequisites, limited to those individual cases in which the failure to meet one or more prerequisites is due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the student.

2. The College Preparatory Course Prerequisite Requirements are minimal requirements for four-year public college admission. Therefore, students should check early with colleges of their choice to plan to meet additional high school prerequisites that might be required for admission and to prepare for college entrance examinations.

3. Students should prepare themselves for college-level work by enrolling in challenging high school courses, such as honors, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and dual enrollment courses.

4. It is the responsibility of each school district to disseminate this set of requirements to entering freshmen students interested in pursuing a four-year college degree in South Carolina upon graduation from high school and to provide the web address for their viewing:

https://www.che.sc.gov/CHE_Docs/academicaffairs College_Preparatory_ Course_Prerequisite_Requirements_Fall_2019%20(1).pdf

5. This revision of the College Preparatory Course Prerequisite Requirements shall be fully implemented for students entering high schools beginning Fall 2015 and colleges and universities as freshmen beginning in Fall 2019. In the interim period, the 2011-12 version of the Prerequisites (approved by the Commission on Higher Education on October 5, 2006) remains acceptable.

REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

In grades 9-12 and in accelerated courses in the 8th grade, students earn one Carnegie unit for each one block course successfully completed. Completion will earn one full credit. In order to receive a state high school diploma, a student must attend the district school issuing the diploma for at least the semester immediately preceding graduation (except in the case of a bona fide change of residence where the sending school will not grant the diploma) and have earned a minimum of 24 Carnegie units.

Language Arts …….....4 Carnegie Units
U.S. History…….…...1 Carnegie Unit
(must include study of Constitution)
Economics.....1/2 Carnegie Unit
Government.....1/2 Carnegie Unit
Other Social Studies…….…….....1 Carnegie Unit
Mathematics ..... 4 Carnegie Units
Science. …….....3 Carnegie Units
Physical Education…….…..... 1 Carnegie Unit
Health…….....1/2 Carnegie Unit
Computer Science …….....1 Carnegie Unit
World Language or Career…….…….....…1Carnegie Unit
Personal Finance…… 1/2 Carnegie Unit
Electives .....6 Carnegie Units

TOTAL .....24 Carnegie Units

The graduating class of 2011 and beyond must declare a major with the program of study.

SCHOOL COUNSELING AND ACADEMICS

DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES

Students are eligible for 2 types of State credentials (certificate, SC Diploma) upon completion of their course of study at Rock Hill High. Beginning with the Class of 2007, students with a disability under IDEA are able to earn the Occupational Diploma. This is not a state diploma. It is locally awarded and is designed to provide students with disabilities proof of their employability skills. The types of Diplomas and their basic explanation are listed below. Students should contact their guidance counselor for detailed information.

Certificate:
Completion of all requirements of an IEP or 24 or more State prescribed Carnegie units.

Occupational Diploma:
Must meet guidelines for eligibility as a student in grades 9-12 with a disability under IDEA. This Diploma is offered when the IEP committee determines this is the appropriate placement.

SC Diploma:
Completion of a minimum of 24 Carnegie units as prescribed by the State South Carolina. Students must meet all Carnegie unit requirements to participate in graduation.

SCHOLARSHIPS
A number of scholarships are awarded to deserving seniors each year. Information on scholarships and financial aid is announced and available to all seniors. Interested students should be alert to announcements, the scholarship newsletter, posted flyers, and financial aid workshops.

QUALITY POINTS FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT/IB/DUAL CREDIT
All students at RHHS follow the State Uniform Grading Policy. This Grading scale awards quality points based on the percent grade earned and the type of course taken. The full scale, along with other important aspects of the policy, is given below. Earning the full extra quality point for IB/AP courses is contingent upon taking the International/National exams for these courses.

PATHWAY SEALS
Please refer to the following website for information on Pathway Seals.

https//ed.sc.gov/instruction/career-and-technical-education/programs-and-courses/cate-programs/personal-pathways-to-success/diploma-pathways-seals-template-updated/

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

In order to comply with state law and ensure continuous and appropriate progress from grade 9 through grade 12, the high schools have established regulatory guidelines to follow Rock Hill Schools Board of Trustees Policy IKE and Administrative Rule IKE-R (Promotion and Retention, revised 2024). In Grades 9 through 11, in order to be eligible for promotion to the next grade classification, students must have earned a minimum number of units, as specified below.

To be promoted to grade 10, a student must pass a minimum of 6 units of credit to include:

One English credit
One math credit
Four additional credits

To be promoted to grade 11, a student must pass a minimum of 12 units of credit to include:

Two English credits
Two math credits One science credit
One social studies credit
Six additional credits

To be promoted to grade 12, a student must pass a minimum of 18 units of credit to include:

Three English credits
Three math credits
Two science credits
Two social studies credits
Eight additional credits

STANDARDIZED TESTING DATES
Rock Hill High personnel administer many academic achievement tests during the school year. Information and applications for tests such as the ACT, PSAT, and SAT are available through the Counseling Office.

PSAT/NMSQT – The preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is a two-hour version of the College Board Scholastic Aptitude Test and measures verbal and mathematical ability. This test is recommended for sophomores and juniors in college preparatory programs. It is required for financial assistance through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, such as the National Merit Scholars Program. All 10th and 11th grade College Prep students are strongly encouraged to take the PSAT.

SAT-The College Entrance Examination Board's Scholarship Aptitude test is a three-hour objective test designed to measure the verbal and mathematical abilities of candidates for college admission. The verbal section of the SAT tests the ability to understand the relationships between words and ideas and to comprehend reading material. The mathematical section of the SAT tests the ability to understand mathematical symbols, and to use them in solving problems. The two parts of the SAT are each scored on a scale from 200 to 800. The test is only an approximate measure of ability of achievement. Seniors who plan to attend college should take the SAT no later than December of their senior year.

ACT – American College Testing Program offers this test which is designed to meet a variety of educational needs: advising and counseling, admitting students to college, identifying students for scholarships and special recognition, etc. This is a three hour test, which includes four individual test: English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning. From these a composite score is determined. This test may be taken in lieu of the SAT.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT TESTS – These tests are available to freshmen - seniors enrolled in an advanced placement course. Successful scores will enable the students to receive college credit for work done in high school. Those students who are scheduled to take AP exam but do not show up to take the exam may be charged the cost of the exam.

ASVAB – The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery is administered to any student that signs up at the designated time. This test measures aptitude ability for service in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard. It also offers excellent career guidance information for all students.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE – These tests are available to juniors or seniors enrolled in either the IB Diploma Program or in individual IB classes. Successful scores may enable students to receive college credit for the course. Each student enrolled in an IB class is expected to take the exam. The cost of the exam is shared by the parents/student and the Rock Hill School District. A portion of the IB exam score is obtained from a major project done in each class. This is called the Internal Assessment. A student who does not turn in the Internal Assessment on time will not be allowed to take the exam for that course. Students who do not take the IB exam after registering for it will be expected to pay the entire cost of the exam.

SCHOOL COUNSELING AND ACADEMICS

High School Grading Procedures 2025-26
Finalized 6/7/2023

Rock Hill Schools grading guidelines are designed to ensure all students in the district are evaluated using a consistent, fair, and equitable grading system across classrooms and schools. Grading procedures in Rock Hill Schools should reflect the following beliefs:

- Grades should reflect student proficiency on grade level standards and competencies, as well as clear learning targets.
- Grades should be balanced and reflect quality over quantity.
- Feedback is critical to student learning and grades alone are not a sufficient form of feedback.

High School Grade Distribution

- All credit-bearing high school courses will give a final exam which counts 20% of a student's overall grade in the course. This requirement excludes dual credit courses overseen by institutions of higher education.
- In Rock Hill Schools, homework is intended to provide students independent practice on skills or previously taught content. When homework is assigned, teachers should consider students' instructional levels and ensure homework is purposeful.
- Major and minor grade weightings below may not be further subdivided.

	Major Grades	**Minor Grades**
Weighting	60% of final quarter grade	40% of final quarter grade
Minimum/ Maximum Number	• Minimum 3 to maximum 5 per quarter for a semester course • Minimum 3 to maximum 5 for a quarter-long course • Minimum 2 to maximum 4 per quarter for an A/B course	• Minimum 9 to maximum 27 per quarter for a semester course • Minimum 9 to maximum 27 for a quarter-long course • Minimum 5 to maximum of 14 per quarter for an A/B course
Types of assignments and assessments	Tests Culminating projects Papers (research, lab reports) Performances Portfolios	Quizzes Classwork including, but not limited to: • journal entries • warm-ups • digital class activities • problematic tasks • demonstration of skills measured by rubrics (teamwork, participation, etc.) • independent reading Homework (1 cumulative minor grade per quarter)

Re-teaching/Reassessment
This policy applies to major assessments or assignments only.

The goal of retaking assessments or assignments in high school is for students to obtain and demonstrate mastery of course content. Students will be provided an opportunity for reassessment only after re-teaching. Re-teaching can occur with a teacher's face-to-face instruction, computer-based instruction, or additional practice opportunities at home.

Reassessment opportunities are only available to students that score below a 75. If a student wishes to engage in reassessment, he/she will have five days from when the initial score is posted in Canvas to request the reassessment from his/her teacher. Students who are offered the opportunity to retake an assessment or assignment must complete it by a date communicated by the teacher. The following assessments/tasks indicate a final measure of learning and may not be reassessed:

- End of course or semester exam;
- An assessment that ends an instructional period such as cumulative assessment;
- Final research paper, report, or essay; or
- Culminating project or performance.

When reassessment is offered, students scoring below the standard will have one opportunity to retake for a maximum grade of 75.

Make-Up Work
No late penalty is assessed if the graded assignment is due to a **lawful documented absence**. It is the **student's responsibility** to contact their teachers about make-up work upon return to school and within three days of return at maximum. The number of days allowed to submit late work is equal to the number of days the student was absent plus one additional day. If the student has prior knowledge of the assignment, he/she is responsible for making up the assignment immediately upon return unless arrangements have been made with the teacher. Parents and students may also access Canvas from the school's home page. Canvas provides access to class work and assignments, as well as due dates via the calendar. Students may ask teachers questions through their inbox.

SCHOOL COUNSELING AND ACADEMICS

Minimum Quarter Grades
If a student earns an F in a class for a given quarter, that F will be reflected on the student's report card. However, Rock Hill Schools sets a minimum final grade during two quarters at the high school level to ensure failing grades for one or two quarters do not prevent a student from passing the class for the year or semester if the student improves performance and/or works to do so.

- Quarter 1 = 50
- Quarter 2 = Student's actual grade
- Quarter 3 = 50
- Quarter 4 = Student's actual grade

Final grades for quarter-long courses should reflect the student's actual grade.

Each student's actual grades should be reflected in Canvas and on progress reports. Teachers can give zeros during the quarter on major or minor assessments/assignments.

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING STUDENT ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS

To receive credit, a student must be in attendance for 120 hours in any one-unit course. Any student who misses school must present a written excuse, signed by a parent/legal guardian, or a medical excuse within three days after returning to school. If this excuse is not turned in within three days, the absence will be unlawful. The maximum number of days that will be recorded as lawful absences with parent notes will be three days per semester unless there are widespread documented virus/influenza outbreaks identified within the school community.

Students will be considered lawfully absent under the following circumstances:

- He/She is ill and his/her attendance in school would endanger his/her health or the health of others.
- • There is a death or serious illness in his/her immediate family.
- • There is a recognized religious holiday of his/her faith.
- • Activities approved in advance by the principal.
- • The student is suspended out of school.
- • There is a necessary medical or legal appointment that cannot be scheduled during non-school time

All lawful absences may be made up in make-up sessions.

Students will be considered unlawfully absent under the following circumstances:

- He/She is willfully absent from school without the knowledge of his/her parent/legal guardian.
- • He/She is absent without acceptable cause with the knowledge of his/her parent/legal guardian.
- • He/She is on an out-of-town trip/vacation.

All students must be in class two-thirds of the class to be counted present. This is 60 minutes for a 90 minute class. All absences must be made up by the last scheduled credit retrieval session each semester. Students who participate in extracurricular activities, such assports, concerts, and prom must be in attendance at least one-half of the school day (two blocks) on the day of the event or the previous school day if the event falls on a weekend.

StudentAttendance Intervention Plans (SAIPs)

After three consecutive or a total of five unlawful absences, regulations require that school officials contact the parent/legal guardian for a conference. The purpose of this conference is to identify reasons for the student's absences and to complete a Student Attendance Intervention Plan (SAIP). Students who exceed the maximum number of absences allowed may be referred to the family court fortruancy if under the age of seventeen

High School Credit

In order to receive one Carnegie unit of credit, a student must be in attendance in accordance with state law. If a student has been in attendance for less than 120 hours in any one-unit course, he/sheis required to attend credit retrieval sessions.

Students who miss more than the allotted number of absences are required to attend credit retrieval sessions. This also includes students who are absent due to out-of-school suspensions. These sessions must be attended or the student will fail the course due to absences.

If the student does not attend any type of credit retrieval session, a “Failure due to Attendance” will be recorded for the course(s) at the end of the semester if the student is passing the course. If the student has a failing grade, that failing grade is to be recorded as a normal failing grade.

A student may apply for competency-based credit through his/her high school. He/She must meet all of the following conditions:

- course average of 70 or greater
- final exam of 60 or greater
- submission of application to the principal for approval

If the student does not apply for competency-based credit through his/her high school, he/she is required to attend credit retrieval sessions in order to receive credit. These sessions must be attended or the student will fail the course due to absences.

ATTENDANCE

Excuses for Absences

All notes (medical, parent notes, etc.) provides documentation for the absence, but does not remove the absence. Seat time will still apply.

- Excuses must be turned in to the Attendance Office within **3 days** of a student's returning to school; otherwise these absences will be recorded as unexcused.
- Parental excuses for illness may be written for up to **3 days** each semester.
- Medical excuses should be turned in for any day a student is "written out of school" for illness by a physician.
- A copy of a funeral program or an obituary should be submitted for a bereavement day missed due to a death in a family
- Documentation on college stationery should be provided for college visits. Juniors and seniors are allowed 2 each year.

Email to send excuses for absence is **RHabsencedocumentation@rhmail.org**

College Visitation Procedures and Guidelines:

Students who plan to attend college after high school are encouraged to investigate which schools might offer them the major and environment they seek. Most colleges offer Saturday Open House programs. They are also in session on many of the days Rock Hill High does not have classes. Students are encouraged to visit at these times.

If a junior or senior chooses to visit a college on a regular school day, certain conditions must be met for the day to be excused. Counselors want to ensure that students are planning ahead for visits.

1. A maximum of 4 days may be excused as college days during the junior and senior years combined.

2. A letter from the admissions office on college letterhead stating the date and time of your visit must be presented to the attendance office the day after your visit in order for a college day to be awarded.

If both of the above procedures and guidelines are followed, students will be granted a college day.

ATTENDANCE

Signing Out Early

1. Students leaving for one day or part of a day: Students who wish to leave school before time for dismissal should bring a note to the attendance clerk between 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. asking permission to leave. The note should include the date, reason for dismissal, parent's signature, and parent's phone number. The student will receive an early dismissal permit which must be shown to the teacher in order to leave early. Early dismissal permits are only issued in the attendance office from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. After that time the parent/guardian must come in to sign out their student. Students may not sign out for lunch. In order to be counted present for a class, a student must be in class 60 minutes of the class period. In every instance of leaving early, the student is responsible for completing any missed classwork, homework and/or tests. **Failure to follow sign in/out procedures may result in disciplinary action.**

2. Students who become ill during the school day: Students who become ill during the school day and need to go home should go to the nurses' office where their parents will be called to inform them of the illness. The call must be made on the nurses' office phone, and the nurse must hear the parent/guardian grant permission to leave. Only the parent/guardian or those listed on the emergency card will be allowed to give permission to sign out. Only phone numbers listed will be used to call. An early dismissal pass will not be required; however the student will scan out in the attendance office. Failure to immediately report to the office to get permission to leave or failure to immediately leave campus after scanning out may result in a suspension. Students must have an ID to scan in or out of school.

Tardies

Students are expected to be in class on time. Tardy students cause disruptions to the teacher and to the other students when they enter a classroom. Students will be given 2 excused tardies (with parent notes submitted within 3 days of the tardy) per semester. These tardies are to be used wisely (traffic, running out of gas, oversleeping, flat tires, loss of electrical power, and other unforeseeable events). Excuses for tardies should be submitted to the attendance office at school. Students arriving at school or to class late should report directly to the Welcome Center to scan in with an ID.

1st Offense – warning

2nd Offense – warning/parent phone call

3rd Offense – a 30 minute detention on Wednesday before or after school

4th Offense – a 30 minute detention on Wednesday before or after school

5th Offense – a 30 minute detention on Wednesday before or after school

6th Offense – ISS—1 Block

7th Offense – ISS— 1 Block

8th Offense – 1 day ISS, parent call and suspension of driving privileges for two weeks

9th Offense—1 day ISS, parent call, and loss of driving privileges for remainder of the semester

10 or more Offenses – 1 day OSS and/or will be treated as defiance with possible long term suspension from school.

***Once a student misses an assigned detention, any future violation will escalate to the next level.**

MAKE UP SCHOOL REGULATIONS
POLICY JE-E(3)

In order to receive on Carnegie unit of credit, a student must be in attendance in accordance with state law. If a student has been in attendance for less than 120 hours in any one-unit course, he/she is required to attend make-up school sessions.

The school year consists of 180 school days. To receive credit, high school students or students in middle school taking high school credit courses must have a minimum of 120 seat time hours, as well as meet all minimum requirements for each course.

Any student with more than six absences (whether lawful/unlawful or excused/unexcused) in a high school course must attend make-up school to be awarded credit for the course. The number of days available for attendance in a given semester may fluctuate from year to year. The six-absence allotment, which requires make-up school attendance beginning with the seventh absence in a given course, provides consistency in communication regarding make-up school and ensures all students are in attendance for minimum 120 hours in a given course.

District high schools offer make-up school to provide students the opportunity to make up needed seat time outside the regular school day. Each school will set, staff, and punish a make-up school session calendar. Students and families should adhere to following points:

- It is the student's responsibility to remain aware of needed seat time in each course and utilize the school's make-up school calendar to make up needed seat time.
- Schools will not be able to hold make-up school sessions based on individual students' school, work, or athletic schedules.
- Make-up school sessions must be supervised by a school staff member determined by the school. Students may not make up seat time in after-school or weekend athletic or extracurricular activities.
- Students will be charged for make-up school sessions.
- Needed make-up school sessions must be attended or the student will fail the course due to attendance.

ATTENDANCE

Students who miss more than the allotted number of absences are required to attend make-up school sessions. There are two exceptions. Absences due to out-of-school suspensions are not required to made up. Absences due to limited medical conditions specified by the district or state are not required to be made up.

Students may only make-up time between 7 and 10 absences. After 10 absences, students will not be able to make up time unless there are extenuating circumstances determined by the principal. Extenuating circumstances include but are not limited to the student's medical condition, family emergencies, and other student academic requirements that are considered to be a maximum load.

All make-up time must be completed within fifteen business days from the last day of the course(s).

If requested by the principal, the Executive Director of Secondary Education, may extend the time for the student's completion of the requirements due to extenuating circumstances that include but are not limited to the student's medical condition, family emergencies, and other student academic requirements that are considered to be a maximum load. Make-up requirements that extend beyond fifteen business days due to extenuating circumstances must be completed prior to the beginning of the subsequent new year.

If the student does not attend any type of make-up school session, a "Failure due to Attendance" will be corded for the course(s) at the end of the semester. For courses in which the student has failed due to attendance, the final grade show on the student's transcript must be a FA, no matter the numerical grade.

A student may apply for competency-based credit through his/her high school. He/She must meet all of the following conditions:

- Course average of 60 or greater
- Final exam of 60 or greater
- Documentation of every absence submitted to the school within three days of the student's return from the absence
- Submission of application to the principal for approval

ATTENDANCE

Students and families should note that—for attendance purposes (i.e., to avoid charges of truancy and ensure absences are lawful) - a student who misses school is expected to present a written excuse for every absence, signed by a parent/legal guardian, or a medical excuse within three days after returning to school.

If the student does not apply or is not approved competency-based credit through his/her high school, he/she is required to attend make-up school sessions in order to receive credit. These sessions must be attended, or the student will fail the course due to attendance.

To send in documentation for absences email:
RHabsencedocumentation@rhmail.org

To request information about make up time:
Rhhs-makeupschool@rhmail.org

MAKE UP SCHOOL SESSIONS

1ST SEMESTER 2025 – 2026

$20 per session

October 21 - 23	4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
November 11, 13, 18, & 20	4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
December 2-4 & 9-11	4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
January 7-8, 13-15, 21-22, & 27-29	4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
SATURDAYS - December 6 & 13 January 10, 24, & 31	8:00 am - 3:00 pm

ALL MAKE-UP SCHOOL DATES & TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO SCHOOL SCHEDULES.

The last day a student can make up time for a Fall 2025 course is

JANUARY 31, 2026!

MAKE UP SCHOOL SESSIONS

2ND SEMESTER 2025 - 2026

$20 per session

March 24 - 26 & 31		4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
April 2, 14, 16, & 28-30		4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
May 5-7 & 12-14		4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
SATURDAYS - April 25 May 9 & 16		8:00 am - 3:00 pm
June 3 - 4	Wednesday & Thursday	8:00 am - 3:00 pm
June 9 - 11	Tues, Wed, & Thurs	8:00 am - 3:00 pm

ALL MAKE-UP SCHOOL DATES & TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO SCHOOL SCHEDULES.

The last day a student can make up time for a Spring 2026 course is

JUNE 11, 2026!

DISCIPLINE

Student Code

As a student at Rock Hill High School, I realize I am responsible not only to myself, but also to my school for the following code items:

1. I will at all times be a proud representative of my school at non-school as well as school-supported activities.
2. My behavior shall be of the highest caliber, displaying only the best examples of sportsmanship and spirit.
3. As a true Bearcat at Rock Hill High School, I will show pride in myself and in my school by having my dress and appearance in accord with good, acceptable school standards.
4. Finally, as a student, I will devote the majority of my time and study periods to the job of preparing for the future, as no sport or extra-curricular activity takes priority over learning at Rock Hill High School.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

We ask that students conduct themselves in a manner that will facilitate a proper learning environment. An assertive discipline plan will be posted in each classroom. Students are expected to follow the plan, and any deviation from the plan will result in the stated consequences. Detentions will be assigned for minor infractions. The student is expected to serve his/her detentions with the teacher assigning the detentions. A student sent to the office for a severe infraction, will be suspended and could be recommended for expulsion. Should a student fail to report to the office when directed by a staff member, that student will receive a suspension.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE REFERRAL PROGRESSION PLAN

Students in violation of the rules and regulations of Rock Hill High will progress through the prescribed levels of disciplinary consequences listed below. All student disciplinary consequences are cumulative. Students violating the Safe Schools Act will be handled at Level 5 of the plan and will be excluded from school.

LEVEL 1 – Warning 1st Offense – Students warned that further/future inappropriate behavior will result in disciplinary consequences. Parent link call to parents/guardian.

LEVEL 2 – DETENTION – 30 minutes to 2 hours

LEVEL 3 – ISS – In school suspension (Only 3 full day ISS assignments per semester)

LEVEL 4 – OSS – Out of School suspension (Only 2 assignments per semester)

LEVEL 5 – LONG TERM SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION

DISCIPLINE

SUSPENSIONS / EXPULSIONS

Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times and places in a manner that will be in the best interest of the school. Conduct of the student in any manner which disrupts class work or involves substantial disorder or invasion of the rights of others is a basis for suspension or expulsion of the student. Students will be held accountable for their behavior throughout the school year, up to and including the last day of school. Students attending or participating in school sponsored events, whether on the Rock Hill High campus or not, are subject to all Rock Hill High School rules and consequences for violations of those rules.

Suspension is defined to be temporary removal from the regular school program which may lead to permanent removal or expulsion if causes are not corrected. Rock Hill High uses two (2) types of suspension which are In School Suspension (ISS) and Out of School Suspension (OSS). Administrators will deal with all occurrences through a fair and common sense approach. Administrators may choose to assign ISS or OSS at their discretion.

ISS is typically assigned for the following types of offenses:

<u>No attempt is made to include every situation arising during a school year.</u>

1. Failure to follow sign-in or sign-out procedures
2. Leaving campus without permission
3. Cutting class
4. Presence in off-limits areas
5. Failure to follow directions/disrespect to staff
6. Classroom disruptions
7. Cursing/obscene gestures
8. Dress code violations
9. First time smoking offenses/possession of smoking materials
10. Computer use violations
11. Willful destruction of school property
12. School bus violations
13. Any gang related activity (dress, signage, graffiti)

Students who are absent on the day(s) they are assigned to ISS must make up the ISS day(s) upon returning to school. Typically, students will be assigned to ISS on only three (3) separate occasions before they will begin to receive OSS suspensions.

When OSS suspension is necessary, the following conditions will apply:

1. The parents of the student will be notified in writing, and, when phone is available, by telephone on the day the penalty is imposed.
2. The student will be released early from school only in the custody of parents or legal guardian. Otherwise, the student will be sent home at the usual time by normal means.
3. The suspended student under no circumstances is to return to school buildings or property, participate in school sponsored activities, or utilize school transportation during the suspension days.
4. A student may be suspended for no more than ten (10) school days for any one offense unless expulsion proceedings are taking place.

Types of offenses that may lead to OSS days are listed but not limited to the following:

1. All ISS offenses that have become chronic in nature.
2. Breaking ISS rules while serving time in ISS.
3. Involvement in acts of extortion, blackmail, or the intimidation of others.
4. Theft.
5. Fighting at school or at a school activity or while being transported by school transportation. (Automatic 5 day expulsion and/or criminal charges)
6. Possession or discharge of fireworks on school grounds.
7. Trespassing on the campuses of other schools.
8. Gambling on school property or at school activities. (Playing cards or dice are not allowed on campus).
9. Threat or verbal abuse of school personnel.
10. Drug/Alcohol offenses will carry a minimum of 3 days OSS.
11. Involvement in calling in of a bomb threat to any school facility or the malicious pulling of a fire alarm at any school.
12. Any other acts which are not covered and are of such a nature as to pose a threat to the physical or mental welfare of students, teachers, and other school personnel or school facilities, or which create a disruption in the orderly operation of any phase of the school program or any of its services.
13. Possession of obscene or pornographic materials on campus

EXPELLABLE OFFENSES

An expulsion is defined as being the removal from school for a period of time ranging from a part of the school year to permanent removal. Recommendation for expulsion may result from an accumulation of discipline offenses or from a single offense. If a student is recommended for expulsion the parent/guardian will be notified by registered mail of the assigned hearing time, date, and location.

The student will be assigned OSS until the hearing has been held and the Hearing Officer notifies the school as to whether:

1. The student returns to school under probation

2. The student is eligible to attend the district's alternative schooling program

3. The recommendation for expulsion is upheld

The parents of an expelled student will be notified of their right to appeal to the Board of Trustees the decision of the superintendent or the hearing officer. In any appeal, if parents plan to have an attorney with them, the superintendent or hearing officer must be notified of this fact so the Board may also have legal counsel present.

The provisions of this section shall not necessarily deny enrollment and attendance in adult or night schools provided the student is otherwise qualified; however; the Board may permanently expel from all programs any incorrigible student.

Circumstances under which a student could be recommended for expulsion are listed below, however, this list is not all inclusive:

1. Any ISS or OSS offenses that have become chronic in nature.

2. Attempt to assault or assault of students or school personnel (or their family members), either in writing, verbally, or through the use of electronic communication devices. Any student who assaults a teacher, administrator, or another student will be expelled from school and referred to law enforcement.

3. Students who bring firearms to school of any type will be expelled and referred to law enforcement. Additionally, the possession on school campuses of other "lethal weapons" that are intended to be used to cause bodily harm will result in expulsion and referral to law enforcement. Such weapons include but are not limited to: knives, blackjacks, brass knuckles, razors, etc. Possession of any object which appears to be a weapon so as to cause fear or intimidation shall be considered a violation of this section.

4. The possession, sale, distribution, use of or being under the influence of drugs or alcoholic beverages – in any amount – while at school or under the administrative jurisdiction of the school whether on or off school grounds.

5. Sex or sex acts of any kind.

Suspension or expulsion recommendations in no way preclude the rights of the principal to have a student arrested when the conduct of the student violates the law or poses a threat to the property or the well being of other students or staff members. Every expelled student will have the right to petition for re-admittance for the succeeding school year through the office of Pupil Services at the District Office.

Discipline of students receiving Exceptional Student Services

Disciplinary process

Students with disabilities as identified under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) are not exempt from school disciplinary processes, nor are they entitled to remain in a particular educational program when their conduct substantially impairs the education of other children in the program. However, federal and state laws and regulations require the public schools to meet the individual educational needs of a student with a disability to the extent that current educational expertise permits.

Program prescriptions

A student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) may prescribe or prohibit specified disciplinary measures for an individual student by including appropriate provisions in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The committee must take into consideration the student's disabling condition when deciding whether or not staff may use a particular form of discipline. Administrative authorities should observe any such provisions contained in a student's individualizes education plan, except that a staffing committee may not prohibit the initiation of proceedings for suspension or expulsion that are conducted in accordance with regulation.

Suspensions

The administration may suspend a student with disabilities unless a suspension is prohibited by the student's individual education plan. At the end of the suspension, the school should return the student to the same educational placement, if appropriate. The school may suspend students for up to 10 days during the regular school year for a disciplinary infraction.

However, students who bring weapons to school or a school function or knowingly possess or use illegal drugs or solicit the sale of controlled substances while at school or a school function or inflict substantial physical injury to another individual in the school environment may be removed for up to 45 days at a time. If the principal and IEP team believe that a child with a disability is likely to injure self or others in the child's regular placement, he/she may petition an impartial due process hearing officer or get a court injunction to order that the child be removed to an interim alternative educational setting for a period up to 45 days.

Expulsions

Expulsion of a student with disabilities is equivalent to a change in educational placement and therefore requires special procedures. Before a student with disabilities may be expelled, an IEP team must determine whether or not there is a connection or causal relationship between the disabling condition and the misconduct. If it is the student's disability, the student would continue to receive services in the regular school setting. If the behavior is not related to the disability then the student is subject to regular discipline. However, provisions must be made to allow the student to continue to progress in the regular curriculum and meet the goals of the IEP.

BULLYING / HARASSMENT / INTIMIDATION

Bullying/harassment is an unwelcome behavior that makes a student or staff member feel uncomfortable or unsafe. Such behavior is detrimental to learning and can contribute to poor self-esteem on the part of the person being harassed. Such behavior goes beyond what would be considered innocent fun.

Bullying/harassment can take the form of physical, verbal, electronic and/or nonverbal behavior. Some examples of this inappropriate behavior include, but are not limited to the following: intentional, but unwelcome, physical contact; threats, insults, or name calling; obscene gestures, telephone calls, jokes, or notes; starting/repeating rumors about someone; continuous staring at someone which brings about obvious discomfort; and other inappropriate behaviors which have the same effect on someone.

If a student feels he/she is being bullied/harassed, the student should first ask the harasser to stop the unwanted behavior. If the behavior continues, the student should report the problem to a teacher, a counselor, an administrator, or other school staff. In addition, the victim should refrain from using harassing behaviors himself / herself in retaliation for the treatment (s)he is receiving. It is most important that the problem be addressed in the proper manner.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Cheating is defined as behavior that results in, or may result in, any student gaining an unfair advantage in any assignments/activities/tests. Cheating includes the following:

Plagiarism: the representation of the ideas or work of another person as the student's own. This includes copying phrases or paragraphs without using quotation marks and/or citations.

Collusion: allowing one's work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another.

Duplication of work: the presentation of the same work for different assessment components, unless teacher permission has been granted.

DISCIPLINE

Some examples of behaviors that are forms of academic dishonesty:

- Looking on someone else's paper during a test or quiz
- Cutting, copying, and pasting information from the internet
- Telling someone who has not taken a test/quiz that material
- Conferring with other students/adults on an assignment when the teacher has given instruction to work alone
- Writing notes in convenient places and referring to them on a test/quiz
- Sliding your paper in viewing range of another student during a test/quiz
- Working out signals/text messaging during a test/quiz
- Using translator programs instead of translating yourself
- Fabricating data for an assignment
- Accessing another students' electronic work through the network, hard drives or other electronic storage devices.

1st Offense: No credit for the assignment and disciplinary referral. Notification to sponsors of any honor societies student belongs to.

2nd Offense: Same as above and 1 day ISS.

3rd Offense: Same as 1st offense, 2 days ISS, and parent conference.

4th Offense: 2 days OSS, and behavior contract.

5th Offense: Recommendation for exclusion.

BUS

SCHOOL BUS REGULATIONS

Students are not to enter buses at any time during the day. In the afternoon, buses will leave seven minutes after school is out. All students are instructed to obey the bus driver's orders while on the bus.

Students are reminded that all rules of conduct applying in the school also apply on the bus. Riding a state school bus is a privilege and not a right.

MEETING THE BUS:

1. Students must be on time.
2. In approaching the bus stop, if a pupil has to walk along the highways, he/she should always walk on the left, on the shoulder, facing traffic.
3. When crossing the highways, he/she should walk, not run.
4. Pupils should not run along side the bus when the bus is moving, but should wait until it comes to a complete stop and then walk to the door.
5. Balloons and flowers are not permitted on school buses.

ON THE BUS:

1. Passengers should go to their assigned seats, without crowding or pushing, and remain seated while the bus is in motion.
2. Passengers must never extend arms, legs, or head out of the bus.
3. Passengers should not talk to the driver while the bus is in motion, except in an emergency.
4. Passengers must never tamper with the emergency door or any other part of the bus equipment.
5. Passengers must not mark nor deface the bus, and seat coverings must not be damaged in any manner. Any damage to the bus or seats should be reported by the pupil to the driver as soon as possible.
6. Only the driver, or other authorized person, should remove First Aid Equipment, which is to be used only for emergency treatment.
7. Passengers must not tamper with the Fire Extinguisher, which is to be used only by the driver in an emergency.
8. Passengers must not fight or scuffle in the bus or create any disturbance. Classroom conduct should be maintained in the bus.
9. Passengers must not wave or shout to pedestrians or occupants of other vehicles and must not throw objects from the bus windows.
10. Books, lunch boxes, or other objects should not be placed in the aisle of the bus.

LEAVING THE BUS WHILE ON THE SCHOOL GROUNDS:

1. Passengers must remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop. They must never attempt to leave until the bus has come to a full stop and the door is opened to indicate that they may leave.
2. Passengers should leave in an orderly manner. Pupils in the front seat leave first.
3. Pupils must not loiter nor play around the stopped or parked bus.
4. Pupils should not enter a restricted area set aside for bus parking or loading.

ON THE TRIP HOME:

1. Passengers are permitted to leave only at regularly designated stops. Any changes must be made with the parent's request and approved by the school official.
2. A student who must cross the highway after exiting the bus should go around to the front of the bus and wait for the bus driver of the school bus patrol to direct him/her to cross the highway. Specific student behavior expectations are established for the safe and efficient operation of the school district transportation system in accordance with state laws and regulations. Transportation is considered an extension of the regular school. Students who violate behavior expectations while riding a bus are subject to suspension from riding the bus and/or all other penalties established for misbehavior while students are on the school premises. Copies of these regulations are provided annually to all students. Additional copies may be obtained from the school principal or the director of the district bus transportation system.

BUS INTERFERENCE:
It is illegal to interfere with the operation of any school bus. Other than authorized school personnel and students, no one is to board a bus, restrict the movement of the bus in any way, or use any form of threat (physical or verbal) to the driver or any passenger. Orders issued by school bus drivers must be followed explicitly. Legal action can be taken against any person violating this law (State Law 59-67-245).

School bus drivers are not permitted to allow students to leave the bus or to be removed from the bus by anyone while in route to their assigned bus stops.

Therefore, parents may not stop the bus to remove a student prior to the student's arrival at his/her regular bus stop.

TRIPS:
By law, students who travel to participate in group activities such as band, chorus, athletic contests, or any activity where they represent the school or participate in a school-sponsored program are the responsibility of and are under the jurisdiction of the school while at the activity and are governed by the regulations of the school.

1. Students who attend an activity with a group sponsored by the school must conduct themselves in an orderly fashion. All school rules apply.
2. Any student, while in a uniform of the school such as band, cheerleader, athletics, etc., will conduct himself/herself at all times in an orderly fashion, whether (s)he is with a group or alone. All school rules apply.
3. For any school sponsored trip, each student must bring written permission signed by his/her parents.

Rock Hill Schools Transporation 803-980-2022 or bushelp@rhmail.org

Health Room

Our school's health room is staffed by a full-time registered nurse who is available to support students experiencing immediate health concerns. These may include things like moderate to severe pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, injuries, asthma attacks, blood sugar checks, or the need for prescription medication.

To help manage the health room efficiently and ensure students do not miss valuable instructional time:

- Students must have a pass from their teacher to visit the health room, unless the student is experiencing a medical emergency.
- Students who go to the health room without a pass and without a valid medical reason may be referred to an administrator for skipping class.

All student visits to the health room are documented. Patterns of excessive or inappropriate use will be addressed with administration and parent/guardian and may result in disciplinary action. Students with an Individual Health Plan (IHP) or 504 plan—developed with input from a healthcare provider and/or parent—may be exempt from this tracking.

Students who are ill must be evaluated by the school nurse (or her designated backup) before being sent home. This helps ensure your child gets the right care and that we follow proper safety procedures.

Please note:

- From 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM each day, the school nurse will have scheduled administrative time to complete documentation, care planning, follow up with parents and/or physician offices and other essential duties. During this hour, students should only come to the health room for emergencies.
- For safety, students may not leave campus to get medication or change clothes unless an administrator or the school nurse gives permission, and a parent or guardian has been contacted.

Student Medicines at School

All medication at school must follow the district medication policy JLCD/JLCD-R.

Prescription and Over-the-counter Medications

● Prescription medications must be checked into the Health Office upon arrival. These medications must be in their original container, and accompanied by the RH Schools prescription medication permission form signed by the parent and licensed health care provider. This form can be found on the district website under Nursing Services or the school nurse can provide this form.

- All prescription medications and controlled substances not authorized for self-carry must be administered by the school nurse or trained staff in the Health Office.
- Over-the-counter (OTC) medications such as ibuprofen, acetaminophen, or allergy relief products may be carried by high school students in their backpacks for personal use. These do not require a parent permission form. Students are expected to carry OTC medication in the original container and use medications as directed on the label.
- Sharing or distributing any medication—prescription or over-the-counter—is strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary action.

Self-Carried, Self-Administered Life-Saving Medication

Students may carry and self-administer certain emergency medications with written authorization from both a parent/guardian and a licensed healthcare provider, including:

- Asthma inhalers
- Epinephrine auto-injectors
- Diabetes-related medications and equipment

Self-Carry/Self-Monitor Forms must be submitted to the Health Office, and students must demonstrate competence in self-administration. These forms are available on the district website or from the school nurse. The district may revoke a student's permission to self-administer medication or self-monitor if the student endangers him/herself or others through misuse of the monitoring device or medication.

Storage & Disposal

- Medications stored in the Health Office will be kept securely and administered in accordance with documentation.
- Any medication left unclaimed at the end of the school year will be disposed of per district policy.

25-26 SCHOOL YEAR!

Every student has been assigned a personal identification number (PIN). This PIN is a unique number for every student to access their cafeteria account. Students' PIN number will not change this year. They are the same as last year. New students will be assigned a number at the time of registration in Power School. Parents are encouraged to review the PIN numbers.

MTSS Time 11:45 - 12:15

Monday - Advisory
Tuesday - 1st Block
Wednesday - 2nd Block
Thursday - 3rd Block
Friday - 4th Block

1st Lunch 12:20 - 2:15

2nd Lunch 1:05 - 1:30

3rd Lunch 1:45 - 2:15

***When operating on a 5 day schedule.**

Students should take a 25 minute lunch break and attend a 30 minute office hour session daily. Students should remain in designated areas during this time.

Parking

For the safety and well-being of students as well as for the purpose of conserving energy, the Board of Trustees requests parents to encourage students to ride school buses where available, and students who live within walking distance of school to walk to school. Where private transportation is necessary, the parents are encouraged to do the driving**.** Parking on school property is a **privilege** extended to students listed in Powerschool in grades 10 through 12 who do not owe fees or fines. A fee of $20.00 and completion of the Alive at 25 program is required to park on campus. Cars must have their parking decal displayed in the upper left hand area of the windshield. Permission to park on school property may be rescinded by the administration for any person who does not observe regulations. (Board Policy - JGFF)

Senior parking is located directly in front of A building, front row of B building, C Gym, & F Gym and are for Seniors ONLY. The first row of A building is reserved for visitor parking. All under classmen parking is located in front of B building, C Gym, & F Gym. No students are allowed to park in the visitor parking or faculty parking lots. Anyone parked in handicapped parking is subject to school discipline as well as actions taken with law enforcement. Students with fees or fines cannot register for parking.

DRIVING RULES AND REGULATIONS

To drive a car on campus the following rules and regulations must be obeyed:

- Vehicles must be operated on campus in a safe manner and not exceed a speed of 10 M.P.H.
- Vehicles on school grounds are subject to being searched.
- Student vehicles must have a valid parking decal and be properly displayed on the upper left hand side of the windshield.
- All vehicles should be locked and no valuables left inside. Rock Hill High School assumes no responsibility for a vehicle or its contents.
- Any theft or damage should be reported immediately to the office and to the Resource Officer.

The parking lot is off-limits during the school day, with the exception of students going to & from ATC or students that have obtained a pass from their administrator. All other students must leave the parking area immediately after parking their vehicle, and not return until after school. After school, students must leave school property immediately, unless involved in extra-curricular activities.

Once a student comes on school grounds, he/she may not leave campus without first reporting to the office to get permission to leave. They must then sign out.

1st Offense: 1 week driving suspension

2nd Offense: 2 week driving suspension

3rd Offense: Driving privileges revoked for remainder of the school year. This is in addition to possible disciplinary consequences for cutting.

Students must park in their designated area only, and must be parked between the lines, not at an angle.

No student may park in the Teacher's Parking Lots (behind or beside B-Building, beside D-Building, or behind F-Building). Students participating in activities may not park in faculty parking areas before, during, or after school for any reason. This is an automatic fine of $25 for first offense.

No student may park in the Visitor's Parking Area. (The first row in the Senior Parking lot). This is an automatic fine of $25 for first offense.

If you park in handicap parking at any time, you are subject to lose your driving privileges for the remainder of the school year. This is an automatic fine of $25 for first offense.

No student may register a car and then duplicate, give, or sell his/her parking permit to another student. If this occurs, parking privileges are revoked for both students. (Includes students graduating early.)

Parking on school property is a courtesy extended to students in grades 10, 11, & 12 (Board Policy-JLIE).

Students must provide the parking office with change of vehicle information as soon as it is known. All vehicles parked on campus must be registered with the parking office. It is the students' responsibility to inform us. Failure to do so will be subject to a fine first offense.

All students will pay $20 for their initial parking decal with the exception of Gold Card Holders. Students will be required to complete the "Alive At 25" program in order to drive on campus (see website www.scnsc.org to register).

Students must submit a written request with their signature and a parent's signature to request a replacement permit. No request will be honored without this documentation. The cost of replacing your original hang tag is $25.00 for the first and increases in cost after that.

A temporary parking permit can be obtained in the office for emergency use. The student must have previously purchased a parking permit. If a student has purchased a parking pass, he/she is allowed three free temporary parking passes. After those three, each will be $1.00. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Parking privileges will be awarded by the student's grade specified in the Powerschool. Privileges will not be adjusted at the beginning of the second semester, with the exception of early graduates.

Students providing false information on the application will have parking privileges revoked for the year.

Stereo volume must not disrupt the school atmosphere before, during or after school hours as determined by the administration and staff.

All parking transactions must be done between 7:45 and 8:35 a.m., during lunch or after school. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Failure to follow parking rules and regulations may result in any or all of the following actions:

1. **Warning**
2. **School Fines ($5, $10, $15, $20 or $25)**
3. **Suspension of driving privileges**
4. **Driving privileges REVOKED**
5. **Vehicle will be towed at owner's expense.**

Parking fines, as any school fine, will put a hold on all school records and/or information including the privilege of purchasing a parking decal.

Media Center

Open mornings 8:15 – 8:45

The media center is a quiet place for reading, browsing, and studying whether individually or with a class. It houses books for assigned and pleasure reading, reference materials, back issues of periodicals, current newspapers and magazines, and all audio-visual materials and equipment. It also offers access to the internet, online periodical indexes, and other software programs.

Students must have a teacher pass to come to the media center from regular classes. Permits are not required before school, during lunch, between classes and after school. If students leave the library before 8:35, they must go outside and stay in front of A, B, or C buildings.

Books may be checked out for two weeks and may be renewed. Library Fines are assessed for late books. However, all overdue books must be returned or paid for and all fines paid by the end of the semester, or students will be placed on the delinquent list and lose privileges.

Applied Technology Center (ATC) Driving and Parking Rules

- Only Rock Hill High School and South Pointe High School students with sophomore status or above may receive parking stickers for ATC.
- Student drivers are not permitted to transport passengers to and from ATC, with the exception of siblings living in the same household.
- Each student driving to the ATC must register his/her car. Driving registration forms may be obtained in the ATC "A" office or from the student's teacher. The form must be completed and signed by the student along with the student's parent/guardian. All Driving Registration forms must be turned in to office at ATC along with the student's RHHS or SPHS hangtags/decals.

Senior Privileges

1. Senior parking areas (front of A and first row in front of B, C, & F but not in visitors parking).
2. Senior group and senior yearbook "drape" and "tuxedo" pictures will be made.

Junior-Senior Prom

The Prom is a formal dance. Students who are listed as a junior and senior in Powerschool at the start of 2nd semester are eligible to attend the prom. Formal attire is required. Outside guests must be listed as a junior or senior at the current high school, under the age of 21, and be pre-approved by the Prom Committee. All students must have a picture ID to show in order to pick up prom tickets from the school. All students and their guest must have a picture ID to show in order to enter the prom. Once a student and his/her guest enter the prom, no one will be allowed to leave and reenter.

Class Rings

Students in sophomore homerooms may order rings through Josten's in the spring of their sophomore year. Students in junior or senior homerooms may also order class rings at that time, if they have not already done so. Students must be in at least a sophomore homeroom to order rings.

ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONS

Garnet, Black, and Gold Honor Cards

The Academic Booster Association, a parent organization, honors academically successful students with Garnet, Black, and Gold Honor Cards which grant special privileges and treats during the year. The cumulative GPA is used to determine which level card the student will receive. Garnet level is 3.5-3.99, Black is 4.0-4.49, and Gold is 4.5 and up. Students will receive cards in August and should keep them all year.

Junior Marshals

Academic honors are extended to qualifying students in the junior class. These students will be known as Junior Marshals and are chosen directly on the basis of scholarship. These students will be selected by the following criteria:

- One of the top 40 students of the rising Junior Class as determined by their weighted GPA of all credits, on the second Monday of July 2025.
- Student must have been a continuous student at RHHS since the beginning of his/her 10th grade year.

A part of the student's responsibility as a Junior Marshal is ushering throughout the entire commencement service. Various civic groups may also call on these students to assist with other programs.

Beta Club

The purpose of this organization is to promote the ideals of honesty, morality, ethical conduct, and leadership while serving others. To be eligible for membership, students must be a sophomore, junior, or senior and have earned an overall GPA of 3.75 as well as exhibited the skills of leadership, high moral character, and willingness to serve the school and community. In order to ensure that service is encouraged, members are required to achieve a certain number of service hours. Some of the projects proposed and conducted by the members include the following: Toys for Tots campaign, Adopt-A-Highway, Smoking Coalition, and The School Beautification Project.

National Honor Society

Membership in the National Honor Society is based on scholarship, service, leadership, and character. The club purpose is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership and to encourage the development of character in students of Rock Hill High School. Membership is granted only to those students selected by a faculty council who review applications submitted by the candidates.

Membership for 2023-2024 will be based upon:

1. Enrollment in a junior or senior class at RHHS.
2. A GPA of at least 4.0
3. Teacher evaluation
4. Completion of activity information sheets
5. Review and selection by faculty council

AFJROTC

Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC), 62nd Group, was established at Rock Hill High School in the 1971-72 school year. The AFJROTC program is open to all Rock Hill High students. Students may enter AFJROTC at any grade level, and remain in AFJROTC from one to four years. Completion of a minimum of three years course of instruction will earn the cadet a Certificate of Completion which provides special enlistment benefits in any U.S. Armed Forces branch of service; however, there is no obligation to enter the military. Cadets receive graduation elective credit for up to four years of AFJROTC. The first semester elective credit may be counted towards the physical education requirement for graduation if desired.

AFJROTC has many extracurricular activities including active Model Airplane/ Model Rocket and Survival Clubs and our competitive Drill Teams and prestigious Honor Guard. Membership in the Kitty Hawk Air Society recognizes academically gifted cadets in a national honor society chartered exclusively for AFJROTC. Field trips to military installations are scheduled each year to familiarize cadets with the military services' working environment, facilities, and equipment. AFJROTC offers a unique blend of academics and leadership throughout their high school years.

Kitty Hawk Air Society

The Kitty Hawk Air Society is an AFJROTC cadet honor society similar to other clubs in the high school. Its purpose is to promote academic excellence within the Cadet Corps, to be of service to Rock Hill High School and the community, and to encourage academic growth of its members. Initial membership is by invitation extended to cadets who have earned a 3.5 GPA and the Academic Ribbon at least once, who have a positive attitude, and demonstrated leadership ability.

SERVICE CLUBS

Library Club (Assistants)

Members of the Library Club help in the library. They perform routine clerical duties to assist the librarians while learning more about the library.

The Red Cross Club

The Red Cross Club was founded in the spring of 2001. Club members organize projects to help both young children and their peers learn about health safety issues such as water safety, AIDS awareness, etc. Students work closely with the Red Cross of York County and the other area high school clubs. Members have the opportunity to be trained for emergency disaster relief both locally and nationally. Members volunteer time and gain valuable leadership skills while working together.

Student Council

The Student Council seeks to perform the duties delegated to them by the administration, develop good citizenship, improve student-teacher relationships, aid in directing the various activities of the school, and work for the interest and betterment of Rock Hill High School.

Thespian Troupe # 4246

The International Thespian Society is a branch of the Educational Theatre Association. Its purpose is to advance the standards of excellence in high school theatre. Membership is given as recognition for meritorious work in theatre through earning points which represent hours given to the Theatre Program. Some activities include all main stage productions, competitions, and state drama festivals. RHHS Theatre has been one of the best in the state for many years. A Rock Hill High School letter can be earned in Drama through work and participation in all activities. Students have the opportunity to audition for The South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities as well as college scholarships in Theatre.

PUBLICATIONS

The Bearcat

Students who participate in yearbook should have a definite interest, good writing and computer skills, and a willingness to learn elements of design and layout. Students must have advisor permission to take the course.

Springfire

Springfire is Rock Hill High School's literary magazine. *Springfire* is open to submissions from all students enrolled at Rock Hill High School. The published works are selected by the staff, which is comprised of the members of the creative writing class. Quality is the number one criterion for publication, and no limit is placed on the number of works published from a particular student.

Bearcat Chat

Bearcat Chat can be found on the following podcast venues: Apple podcast, Spotify, Google Podcast, and Stitcher. The broadcast episodes are about 30 minutes long, Our students chose the segments, the interviewees, write the interview questions, and record their interviews. Please follow or subscribe to Bearcat Chat and leave review.

Athletics

Purpose

The Rock Hill High School Inter-Scholastic Athletic program seeks recognition for the school by competition with neighboring high schools. The programs seek to develop athletic skills to high degree but always to emphasize sportsmanship and character building. For the student body, the inter-school athletic program provides opportunities for developing fine school morale, for being sportsmanlike host to visiting students and for exercising the qualities of fair play and courtesy.

Eligibility Requirements:

To be eligible for athletic participation, a student must:

A. Not have turned 19 years of age before July 1, 2025.

B. Pass at least four academic courses, including each unit the student takes that is required for graduation. The required courses are as followed:

* English - 4 units
* US History and Constitution - 1 unit
* Government - .5 unit / Economics - .5 unit
* Other Social Studies - 1 unit
* Mathematics - 4 units
* Science - 3 units
* PE or ROTC - 1 unit
* Computer Science - 1 unit
* Foreign Language - 1 unit

OR

Student must pass a total of 5 academic courses

Students must satisfy these conditions in the semester preceding participation in the interscholastic activity, if the interscholastic activity occurs completely within in one semester or in the semester preceding the first semester participation in an interscholastic activity.

C. Not have received a high school diploma or its equivalent.

D. Not have completed over 8 semesters of high school after entering the 9th grade.

E. Be an approved transfer by the SCHSL and District (all transfers are ineligible until deemed eligible by the HSL and district). **Note – in-district transfers are ineligible for athletic participation for one calendar year from the transfer. Appeals may applied for in writing to the District Appeals Committee**

Athletes participating in football at Rock Hill High School cannot participate in an outside football team during the football season.

Only athletes zoned for Rock Hill High School may participate in sports at Rock Hill High School.

All athletes must pay a $60 athletic fee in order to participate in athletics.

All athletes and parents of athletes must register with www.planetHS.com and complete the eligibility documents of a medical history, pre-participation physical form (dated after April 1, 2025), parent and student permission/assumption of risk form, and concussion form to be eligible to participate or tryout for athletic teams.

All athletes must not forfeit their amateur status.

All athletes must be considered full-time students by the school district – at least two classes per semester.

An athlete may only use two summer school credits toward athletic eligibility and may use no more than two credit recoveries for semester eligibility.

Student athletes violating the school's or district's social media policy will be subject to suspension and possible removal from the athletic program.

Any arrest can lead to suspension from Athletics for a minimum of 5 school days. If the arrest is a felony, the athlete is automatically suspended from athletics indefinitely until the felony or court date has been resolved.

Students who quit a sport are not eligible to condition or participate in another sport until the previous sport has been completed.

Students must attend at least half of a day of school to be eligible to participate that day in athletics (exceptions are school related functions).

Athletic Trainers and Managers

Probably the most important people on any athletic team are those young men and young ladies who are "behind the scenes" working as managers and trainers. Varsity Club Status is given to those persons who distinguish themselves as proficient, dedicated, honest and tireless workers.

ATHLETICS

Sportsmanship

All students must realize their importance in good sportsmanship. This refers to students who may be spectators as well as those involved in play. According to the South Carolina High School League Handbook and Bulletin, if a spectator or player is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct, the school shall be given one of two options; take legal steps against the offenders or to accept discipline from the league. This could mean probation or fine for the school. We must all remember to be good sportsmen at all events. Students may be suspended for improper conduct while attending or participating in a school

Sunday Practice

Teams may chose to hold practices on Sundays, but Sunday practices are not mandatory.

RH BEARCATS

2025—2026 Bell Schedule

1st Block	8:45 - 10:10
2nd Block	10:15 - 11:40
MTSS	11:45 - 12:15
WU/ATC Lunch Depart HS at 12:05	11:45 - 12:05
3rd Block	12:20 - 2:15
1st Lunch	12:20 - 12:45
2nd Lunch	1:05 - 1:30
3rd Lunch	1:45 - 2:15
4th Block	2:20 - 3:45

School Hours: 8:45-3:45

No Cell Phones from 8:35-3:45

Students may not access and use their cell phone at any point during this time. South Carolina implemented a statewide ban on student cellphone use in public schools, effective January 2025. This policy prohibits students from using personal electronic devices, including cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, and gaming devices, during the school day.

RH

BEARCATS

The rules, regulations and consequences in this handbook are based on policies of the Board of Trustees for Rock Hill Schools. These policies are concurrent with state and federal laws and guidelines. If the district policies, state or federal laws or guidelines are updated, changed, or modified in anyway during the school year, the rules, regulations and/or consequences in this handbook may undergo modifications. Such changes will be posted on the school's website.

Thank you for accessing your Parent/Student Handbook.

Please verify in the Parent Portal by completing the eCollect Handbook Verification in Forms that you have read and understand student expectation.