

RIVERVIEW COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Grades 9 – 12

2026 - 2027

The purpose of this Student Code of Conduct is to help students develop respect for the rights & properties of others, develop self-discipline, learn to interact with others & prepare to assume the responsibilities of good citizenship when they leave school. The Code is a list of violations and the penalties that will be used by an administrator should students commit the violations and includes an appeal process if students or parents are dissatisfied with the action taken. **It is the obligation of all students and parents to read the Code of Conduct.**

The classroom atmosphere must be one in which students can learn & teachers can teach. If a student interrupts the instructional process, the teacher will make every effort to resolve the problem. However, if the problem persists, the teacher will refer the student to an administrator. All school personnel (teachers, administrators, custodians, secretaries, lunchroom supervisors, bus drivers, paraprofessional, athletic event personnel, coaches, and group sponsors, etc.) have the right to initiate disciplinary action as stated in this document at any sanctioned school activity, even if not located within the Riverview Community School District. Any school employee may remove a student from a class or other activity and send the student to the office. Lockers, parking lots, and the district wireless network are school property and are subject to searches at any time for any reason. This includes the use of detection dogs.

The Code of Conduct provides guidelines which school authorities will use regarding student misconduct. It recognizes that individual situations and special circumstances may be taken into consideration in each case. A school administrator or the Board of Education may impose a less or more serious consequence for a particular incident of misconduct if, in their judgment, the circumstances warrant. Moreover, the lists of violations on the following pages are not all-inclusive but are representative and illustrative. A student committing an improper act of misconduct which does not happen to be specifically listed is subject to disciplinary action. Consideration of previous violations, even of a different nature, may be considered in determining the appropriate consequence. Any In-School Suspension (ISS) or Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) is intended to help correct a situation, not harm or disgrace the student involved, and is used when other means have failed. It is important to have administration and teachers maintain a direct involvement with parents, either by telephone, electronically or by conference. The administration and staff will also utilize various auxiliary personnel such as social workers, psychologists, outside agencies, etc., as a resource when dealing with students and/or their parents. Parents are responsible for developing and maintaining the appropriate behavior pattern of their students and supporting and reinforcing appropriate school authorities' action when students misbehave in school.

The Code of Conduct is reviewed periodically by a committee composed of school staff, parents, students, and a member of the Board of Education. Prior to submitting the proposed changes to the Board of Education for consideration, this committee provides an opportunity to review, comment, and provide input on the Code of Conduct. All students and parents are welcome to participate on this committee. If you are interested, submit a written request to the principal.

The Riverview Board of Education has taken formal action to enact this Code of Conduct and supports the provisions of the Code when they are administered pursuant to the directions set forth. The following are guidelines for most disciplinary actions. The administrator has the option to repeat any step if appropriate. The administrator reserves the right to limit the number of in-school suspensions that a student may serve; the administrator may also assign either ISS or OSS at their discretion. A flagrant violation may result in a penalty greater than the guidelines.

The Code of Student Conduct is enforced:

1. While students go to or from school at any time (including lunch).
2. On any school district property at any time.
3. At all school-sponsored or approved events or activities on or off campus.
4. On a school bus for any purpose.
5. With respect to any misconduct toward any school employee or damage to his/her property, whether on or off school premises.
6. With respect to any off-campus misconduct of a serious and/or criminal nature, which poses a likelihood of danger to the health (physical or emotional) or welfare of students or district personnel (i.e., selling drugs off-campus), or which reasonably makes the continued presence of the student in the school disruptive to the educational process (i.e., committing vicious crime off-campus).
7. Online (Electronic) activity that occurs on or off school campus that affects the school environment in a manner that causes a disruption to any group or member of the school community.

A student who has engaged in misconduct resulting in expulsion or long-term suspension in another school system, public or private, or who is alleged by school authorities to have engaged in misconduct in another school system, but who has withdrawn from said school system before such misconduct was established by an appropriate hearing, which misconduct, if true, is of sufficient gravity to pose a threat to the health or welfare of students or district personnel, may be subject to suspension or expulsion where such misconduct has been established in a hearing before the superintendent or his/her designee.

SUSPENSION PROCEDURES (ISS OR OSS)

Students and their parents or guardians shall be provided information regarding the circumstances which result in suspension with an explanation for the action itself. When a suspension is the appropriate consequence, the student will meet with a building administrator prior to the effective date of suspension (except in circumstances where the infraction involves jeopardy to staff members or students). The student shall be given the opportunity to present his/her side of the incident. An effort will be made to contact the parent/guardian before the suspension becomes effective.

TYPES OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

1. **WARNING** - either verbal and/or written notification sent to parents.
2. **DETENTION** - notification given to student and parent via telephone, electronic or written copy sent home. If a detention needs to be rescheduled, a parent needs to notify administration by 7:50 a.m. on the day of the scheduled detention in order for this request to be considered.
3. **ISS – In School Suspension.** Students will be placed in ISS when their behavior warrants their removal from class.
4. **SHORT-TERM SUSPENSION (OSS)**
 - A. **Definition** - A short-term suspension is the denial of a student's right to attend school, be present on school grounds, and attend any school function for a period ranging from one to ten school days.
 - B. **Authority** – A principal or designee has the authority to impose a suspension based upon misconduct.
 - C. **Procedures:**
 1. A suspension may be imposed by an administrator following an informal meeting involving the administrator and the student in which the student is advised of the misconduct with which he/she is charged, and the evidence supporting the charge and is given an opportunity to present his/ her version of the alleged incident(s).

2. At the discretion of the building administrator, other persons may be permitted to attend the hearing or otherwise provide information, which will tend to assist in the resolution of the charge.
3. Upon the conclusion of the meeting, if the administrator determines that the student has not engaged in misconduct, the charge will be dismissed and all documents reflecting the charge will be removed from the student's records.
4. Upon the conclusion of the meeting, if the administrator determines that the student has engaged in misconduct, an appropriate suspension not to exceed ten (10) school days may be imposed upon the student by the administrator.
5. Parents will be notified by phone or letter of the student's suspension and the reasons.

D. Appeal Process

1. Should the student and parent or guardian request a review for the student regarding the suspension, that review shall be held before the building principal.
2. A review at the building level shall be held within three (3) school days of the suspension. A delay may be granted for as long as one week. If a review hearing does not occur within a week, the disciplinary action will go into effect.
3. The building principal is the final level of appeal on short-term suspensions, except in cases where the principal was the suspending administrator or a witness against the student. In such cases, the appeal shall be directed to a central office administrator, whose decision is final.

5. LONG-TERM SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

- A. **Definition** - A long-term suspension is the denial of a student's right to attend school, be present on school grounds, and attend any school function for a period in excess of ten (10) school days. An expulsion is the total and permanent exclusion of a student from the Riverview Community Schools.
- B. **Authority** - The Superintendent has the authority to impose a long-term suspension and is the board's designee to hear and determine matters of expulsion.
- C. **Procedures:**
 1. A long-term suspension or expulsion may be recommended to the Superintendent by a building administrator following an investigation of charges of misconduct by a student and an offer to the student and his/her parents or guardians of a meeting involving the administrator and the student, in which the student will be advised of the misconduct with which he/she is charged and is given opportunity to present his/her version of the alleged incident(s). At the discretion of the building administrator, other persons may be permitted to attend the hearing to provide information to assist in the resolution of the charges.
 2. Upon the conclusion of an investigation of the charges by the building administrator and upon the conclusion of an informal hearing, if the building administrator determines that the student has not engaged in misconduct, the charges shall be dismissed and all documents reflecting the same, if any, shall be removed from the appropriate academic records of the student.
 3. Upon the conclusion of an investigation of the charges by the building administrator and upon the conclusion of an informal hearing, if the building administrator determines that the student has engaged in misconduct which merits the imposition of a long-term suspension or expulsion, the building administrator will recommend in writing to the Superintendent that the student be so disciplined, identifying the basis upon which the administrator's recommendation is founded. The building administrator may also, upon making such a determination impose an immediate suspension of the student, pending further review of the recommendation.
 4. A student, or a parent of a minor student, may waive the student's right to a hearing on charges alleging student misconduct and voluntarily accept suspension or expulsion.

from school, school grounds, and school functions without a hearing. A suspension will be for a specific period of time. Such voluntary suspension is not a right of any student and will be available only at the discretion of the building administrator.

5. Upon receipt of a recommendation from an administrator for a long-term suspension or expulsion of a student, the Superintendent will review the recommendation and will determine the appropriateness of the recommended discipline or may take other action as is appropriate.
6. If the Superintendent determines that it is appropriate to pursue a long-term suspension or expulsion, then the Superintendent shall schedule a hearing upon the same before the Superintendent. Such hearing shall take place within ten (10) school days following the commencement of the student's suspension.
7. At the hearing before the Superintendent, evidence in support of the charges will be presented by the building administrator. The student may be represented by counsel and may present witnesses on his/her behalf, as well as cross-examine witnesses who testify in support of the charges. Following the conclusion of the evidence and within ten (10) school days following the commencement of the student's suspension, the Superintendent shall issue a written decision, determining either that:
 - a. The charges of misconduct are well founded, and the discipline imposed by the building administrator will continue.
 - b. The charges of misconduct are well founded but that the discipline imposed by the building administrator shall be either discontinued or changed to a fixed term, or
 - c. The charges of misconduct are not well founded, and the charges shall be dismissed.
8. If the student and/or parents or guardians do not elect to have such a hearing by failing to respond to the notice within five (5) school days indicating their election, or if they decline the opportunity for a hearing, the Superintendent will review the recommendation of the building administrator and make such determination as it is appropriate based upon the information before him/her. The decision of the Superintendent is final.
9. If there is reasonable cause to believe that a student who has been charged with misconduct is disabled, and the student has not previously been evaluated by the Riverview Community Schools, such an evaluation will occur prior to the hearing before the Superintendent on charges of misconduct potentially leading to a long-term suspension or expulsion of that student. If it is determined that the student is disabled, such evaluation will include a determination as to whether the events which are the subject of the charges were approximately related to the disabling condition. In the event it is determined that either the student is not disabled or, if disabled, the events which are the subject of the charges were related to the student's disability, the foregoing procedures shall resume from the point at which they were suspended. In the contrary event, the charges shall be dismissed, and an appropriate special education placement shall be determined.

D. READMISSION AFTER EXPULSION

Following expulsion, the student will not be readmitted to any school within the Riverview Community Schools except by the Board of Education. The Board of Education may choose to readmit the student in a subsequent school year, if in the Board's judgment, the student can satisfactorily demonstrate that he/she has made a sincere effort at rehabilitation after expulsion and will not represent a threat to the safety and welfare of the students at Riverview Community Schools. The Board of Education may further qualify readmission upon specified

conditions, which it determines are appropriate. The decision of the Board of Education with respect to any request for readmission is final.

SECONDARY POLICY ON STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE

The Riverview Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to the community to ensure that reasonable standards of dress and grooming are maintained in the RCSD. We believe that students should be able to express themselves while also feeling safe and comfortable at school, and that a student's attire and mindset can help support their learning.

Students MUST wear:

- A shirt that covers the chest and belly, is fitted under the arms, and covers one's undergarments.
- Bottoms (pants, shorts, skirts, dresses, leggings) that do not expose undergarments or buttocks.
- Shoes that are appropriate for school activities, recognizing that each class may require specific shoes (athletic shoes for gym, close-toed shoes in vocational areas, etc.).

Students MAY wear:

- Head scarves and religious head coverings.
- Tank tops with straps that are wider than an inch.
- Ripped jeans, as long as one's undergarments are not exposed.
- Yoga pants and athletic wear.

Students MAY NOT wear:

- Pajama pants, robes, or slippers.
- Any item that obstructs the ability to identify a student (hats, hoods, face paint, theatrical or costume-level makeup during regular school hours, sunglasses).
- Images or language that depicts drugs, alcohol, pornography, or violence (sayings or images).
- Clothing with hate speech / symbols, or profanity.
- Any other image or language that creates a hostile or intimidating classroom environment or disrupts the learning environment.

Exceptions may be made for spirit weeks, fundraisers, cultural, religious, or medical documented reasons.

Students will dress for field trips in a manner that is appropriate for the field trip activities. Dress code for school dances will be pre-determined by administration and communicated to students. Dress will reflect the type of dance.

When a potential dress code violation occurs, the teacher will notify the office so that a determination can be made if he/she needs to change into appropriate clothing. The student will change and return to class with a pass indicating that they were in the office.

RCSD administration makes the final decision concerning student dress and appearance.

The following are examples of violations for which ISS or OSS up to **ten (10) school days for misconduct occurring at school, on school property, at any school sponsored activities, or to which the Student Code of Conduct is applicable. A flagrant or particularly severe or aggravated violation may result in more severe disciplinary action.**

DRESS CODE VIOLATORS – students must change and be appropriately dressed before returning to class.

Recommended Guidelines:

- 1st offense: Warning, parent contact, and /or change of clothes.
- 2nd offense: Parent contact, detention and change of clothes.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE AND AUP VIOLATIONS - The district's acceptable use policy (AUP) applies to personal devices used at school and any devices used to access the RCSD networks. The policy must be on file before any devices are to be used at any time.

Electronic devices are brought to school at your own risk. Please do not leave cell phones, earbuds, headphones, etc. unattended as RCHS is not responsible for lost, broken or stolen devices.

The School District reserves the right to prohibit the possession or use of wireless communication devices on School District property or at School District-related functions. For purposes of this Policy, "wireless communication devices" means an electronic device capable of, but not limited to, text messaging, voice communication, entertainment, navigation, accessing the internet, sending and receiving photos and videos, or producing email, including cell phones, personal laptops, smartwatches, smart glasses, and other wireless device connections. For purposes of this Policy, "instructional time" means time that a student is assigned to engage in learning and curricular activities by instructional staff. For purposes of this Policy, "school grounds" means a building, playing field, or property used for school purposes to impart instruction to students or used for functions and events sponsored by a school.

Administration may develop regulations to further control student possession and use of personal electronic devices.

Prohibition of Wireless Communication Devices In accordance with MCL 380.1303a, students are prohibited from using wireless communication devices on school grounds during instructional time unless required by law.

This prohibition of students using wireless communication devices will be enforced by instructional and support staff through monitoring students during instructional time and the school day. Wireless communication devices must be turned off and kept out of sight during a buildings designated instructional time.

Exemptions. As required by law, students may use a wireless communication device during instructional time for any of the following exemptions:

- Medically necessary devices,
- District owned or issued devices under building staff discretion,
- Devices used for instructional purposes with building staff discretion,
- Devices used for special education programming and/or as an accommodation (Section 504 Plan, Individualized Education Program, or the Americans with Disabilities Act),
- Devices used for lesson-specific academic assignments in building staff's discretion, or
- Devices used in emergency situations as described in the School District's Emergency Operations Plan, where applicable per the plan, pursuant to MCL 380.1308b.

Recording and Broadcast. Students may not use wireless communication devices to broadcast or record audio, images, or video of any student, staff member, or other person in the school or while attending a school-related activity, unless the student has received permission from the person(s) to be broadcasted or recorded. This prohibition does not apply to curricular or extra-curricular activities for which personal recording is generally permitted (e.g., athletic events, arts performances, etc.).

When students enter a classroom, they are to dock their cell phones in the caddy. Students who fail to do this and are caught with their cell phone in class, will have their devices turned into the office and, on the first & second offense, returned to the student after 2:40pm. No warning is required to be issued. On the

third offense of a cell phone violation, the phone will not be returned to the student and the phone will only be released to a parent or other adult.

- For safe school purposes, students using earbuds during passing time are allowed to have only ONE earbud in their ear. Students are not allowed to wear headphones, completely covering the ears, during passing times.

Violation of any part of this policy may result in student discipline.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH WRITTEN CLASS OR SCHOOL RULES, NOT BRINGING NECESSARY CLASS MATERIALS

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR / VIOLATION OF CLASSROOM RULES. Pink slips for all classes are totaled to determine the penalty, progressive discipline and restorative practices may be utilized when applicable to correct behavior.

NOT REPORTING DIRECTLY TO THE OFFICE OR DESIGNATED AREA WHEN GIVEN A PASS OR PINK SLIP FROM A TEACHER, LEAVING CLASS WITHOUT PERMISSION, OR LEAVING SCHOOL WITHOUT CHECKING OUT IN THE OFFICE. It is imperative for the safety of all students that school officials are aware of where students are during the school day.

LOITERING IN HALLS, BATHROOM, PARKING LOT, MISCONDUCT IN HALLS. Students must leave the building by 3:00 unless participating in an extracurricular activity or working with a staff member.

FIGHTING—Any student engaging in a physical altercation will be subject to disciplinary action. Restorative practices will be considered and may be used when applicable, both to prevent physical altercations and as an alternative to reduce suspension.

PROMOTION OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE: Students who promote or film an altercation with an electronic device or comment, incite, or promote a fight via social media are subject to disciplinary action.

FORGED ATTENDANCE PHONE CALL.

OFF LIMITS (STUDENT BEING IN PLACES AT TIMES THEY SHOULD NOT BE, SUCH AS IN THE STUDENT OR TEACHER PARKING LOT, HALLS OR GYM DURING LUNCH HOUR; OR STREETS ADJACENT TO RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOL). Freshmen may not leave the school building during lunch except to eat in the Pirate's Cove.

PARKING AND DRIVING VIOLATIONS, NOT PARKING IN STUDENT PARKING LOT. STUDENTS MUST HAVE PARKING PERMITS. (SEE PARKING GUIDELINES.)

Recommended Guidelines:

- 1st offense: Parent notification and detention
- 2nd offense: ISS at administrator's discretion; loss of driving privileges.

PROFANITY, OBSCENITY, DEROGATORY OR OFFENSIVE STATEMENTS, INCLUDING E-MAIL MESSAGES, COMPUTER MESSAGES, OR DOCUMENTS USING RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOL NETWORK OR COMPUTERS.

PROFANITY, DEROGATORY OR OFFENSIVE STATEMENTS OR GESTURES DIRECTED AT A TEACHER OR PERSONNEL, INCLUDING E-MAIL MESSAGES, COMPUTER MESSAGES, OR DOCUMENTS USING RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOL NETWORK OR COMPUTERS.

ACCESSING INAPPROPRIATE WEBSITES OR USE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIORS, INCLUDING USE OF AI TO ALTER OR CREATE IMAGERY.

USE OF OR POSSESSION OF ANY TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN SCHOOL. This includes, but is not limited to, e-cigarettes, vaporizers, or similar items.

CHEATING ON A TEST OR ASSIGNMENT OR PLAGIARISM; this includes the use of AI.

Recommended Guidelines: Students will receive a zero on the assignment and parents will be notified.

Students who are members or eligible to be in the National Honor Society who are caught cheating may be put on academic probation and/or removed from this organization.

TRUANCY OR UNEXCUSED ABSENCES (See high school attendance policy.) Note: Repeated offenses for student under 18 can result in referral to juvenile court and local court.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW A REASONABLE REQUEST (INSUBORDINATION)

BUS MISBEHAVIOR. In cases of mass misbehavior, a bus run will be returned to school and/or canceled. Bus and bus stop misconduct includes, but not limited to, not riding the bus to which student is assigned, failing to take a seat, failure to remain seated, excessive noise, throwing items from the bus or at the bus, shouting, swearing, having part of one's body out of the bus window, being insubordinate, rude or otherwise disrespectful to the driver or aide, doing any damage on the bus, or littering the bus.

CAFETERIA MISBEHAVIOR.

Recommended Guidelines:

- 1st offense: Student will clean up the mess.
- 2nd offense: Parent notification, student will clean up the mess, and lunch detention.
- 3rd offense: Parent notification, removal from cafeteria for up to 30 school days.

LOCKER VIOLATION (NOT BEING IN ASSIGNED LOCKER, LOCKER MISUSE). Lockers are to be used exclusively to store school-related materials and authorized personal items such as footwear, coats and books. Students are solely responsible for the contents of their lockers and are not to share lockers with any other student. Principals are authorized to search lockers and locker contents at any time, without notice, and without parental/guardianship or student consent. This includes the use of detection dogs. Principals are authorized to seize any illegal or unauthorized items in violation of district policy and/or school rule, or reasonably determined by the principal to be a potential threat to the safety or security of others. Such items are to be removed from the locker and held for evidence in possible disciplinary proceedings and/or turned over to law enforcement officers.

PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES WHEN ABSENT. When a student is absent from school or serving ISS or OSS, he/she may not participate in or attend a practice session or scheduled activity on that calendar day. However, a student may be excused for all or a portion of the school day through the attendance office and still participate in the school functions on that day.

ATTENDANCE INFRACTIONS

As highlighted in the district attendance policy Parents whose children attend the Riverview Community School District are required by law to see that their children attend school continuously and consecutively until they reach the age of 18.

- Teachers/administrators have the right to investigate absences.
- Parents **MAY NOT** excuse the following absences:
 - Students who present in class and then reported absent later in the day without parental approval.
 - Students who leave the building or campus without checking out at the office for any reason including illness.
 - Students who arrive to class more than 5 minutes late without a pass from school staff.
 - Students who skip one or more class periods during the school day.

PROCEDURE FOR CALLING OFF A STUDENT

When a student is absent from school, parents are expected to call the day the student is absent; a **parent must call the school before 7:45 a.m. on the day following the absence.** The parent's daytime telephone number must be stated when calling off the student. The parent may call 734.285.7361 and leave a message at any time by pressing option #1. To speak with the attendance secretary, parents may press option #2 during school hours.

THE FOLLOWING PENALTIES WILL BE IMPOSED FOR ATTENDANCE CODE VIOLATIONS:

- 1st offense: student is warned and parent is notified
- 2nd offense: student is given detention and parent is notified.
- 3rd offense: Student is assigned ISS and parent is notified.
- 4th offense: Student is assigned ISS and parent conference is required.

STUDENT TARDINESS POLICY

Students are expected to be in class on time unless excused with a pass from a staff member or the office. Students are tardy if they are not in their seats when the bell starts to ring, or a gym teacher does not check them in. A tardy more than five (5) minutes is considered a violation of school rules. Students will be disciplined as follows for tardies:

- Third tardy in any one class -- Student & Parent Notification and Warning
- Next tardy from that class -- Detention
- Any subsequent tardy from that class -- one day ISS

The following are examples of violations for which ISS or short-term suspension up to ten (10) school days for misconduct occurring at school, on school property, at any school sponsored activities. A severe or aggravated violation may result in more severe disciplinary action at the discretion of an administrator.

1. Assembly misconduct disruptive to the educational process.
2. Behavior detrimental to the learning process, or inappropriate for the school environment.
3. Cheating/plagiarism on major assignments/tests/exams.
4. Destruction of school property. Restitution by student or parent will be required.
5. Food or merchandise sale not authorized by administration.
6. Insubordination.
8. Intimidation or harassment of students or adults, inappropriate comments, including ethnic intimidation, name calling, racial slurs, rumors, threats, bullying, hazing, etc.
9. Unauthorized presence in a restricted area of the building or grounds.
10. Safety health practice violation on school property. This includes any misbehavior in the school parking lot, refusing to allow a legal search, etc.
11. Throwing snowballs in the school environment. Misuse of shaving cream, aerosol sprays, materials which stain or are irritants, etc.
12. Unsportsmanlike or inappropriate behavior at athletic events.
13. Walk out or any unauthorized participation in group activities.

14. Improper use of prescription or over-the-counter drugs/medicine.
15. Stealing from the cafeteria or school property. Restitution must be made.
16. Stealing, damaging, or having property that belongs to someone else. Restitution must be made
17. Distribution of unauthorized publications, pictures, or materials.
18. Libel.
19. Changing computers or changing settings on monitors, CPU, file programs, printers or sending computer messages without the consent of the teacher.
20. Extended rights policy–If student behavior outside of school has a direct relationship or detrimental effect on the safe and orderly educational atmosphere within the school, administration may act. This includes email and cyber communication.

Board Policy 8260 – Bullying (Cf.8018) Bullying Prohibited

Bullying and cyberbullying are both forms of harassment. For the purposes of this policy, “bullying” is defined as: “The repeated intimidation of others by the real or threatened infliction of physical, verbal, written, electronically transmitted, or emotional abuse, or through attacks on the property of another. It may include, but not be limited to, actions such as verbal taunts, name-calling and put-downs, including ethnically- based or gender based verbal put-downs, extortion of money or possessions, and exclusion from peer groups within school.” Cyberbullying is defined as: “Any electronic communication that is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one or more pupils either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- i. Substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one or more pupils.
- ii. Adversely affecting the ability of a pupil to participate in or benefit from the school district’s or public school’s educational programs or activities by placing the pupil in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress.
- iii. Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a pupil’s physical or mental health.
- iv. Causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school. Such conduct is disruptive of the educational process and, therefore, bullying and cyberbullying are not acceptable behaviors in this District, and are prohibited.

Students who engage in any act of bullying or cyberbullying while at school, at any school function, in connection to or with any District sponsored activity or event, or while en route to or from school are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion. As may be required by law, law enforcement officials shall be notified of bullying or cyberbullying incidents.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations and programs that will increase awareness of the problem of bullying or cyberbullying, and train teachers and other staff to effectively intervene if bullying or cyberbullying is witnessed in their presence or brought to their attention. In designing administrative regulations and anti-bullying programs or strategies, the Superintendent should consult with the greater school community, including students.

Students reporting bullying or cyberbullying are assured confidentiality. This policy shall not be interpreted to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions, or debate that is protected by state or federal law.

Multiple violations will be handled in the order they occur if disciplinary action is required.

THE FOLLOWING CIVIL VIOLATIONS WILL BE REFERRED TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES FOR DISPOSITION AND CAN BE FOLLOWED BY SUSPENSION (OSS) FOR UP TO TEN DAYS. LONG TERM SUSPENSION UP THROUGH EXPULSION WITH SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL CAN BE IMPOSED FOR MISCONDUCT OCCURRING AT SCHOOL, ON SCHOOL PROPERTY, AT ANY SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITIES, OR TO WHICH THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT IS APPLICABLE. IN ADDITION TO SUSPENSION, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY

REQUIRE, AT THE PARENT’S EXPENSE, A PSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATION TO ASCERTAIN IF THE STUDENT MAY REQUIRE TREATMENT, HOSPITALIZATION, OTHER FORMS OF CONFINEMENT, OR REHABILITATION PRIOR TO BEING READMITTED TO SCHOOL.

1. Possession of or being under the influence of alcohol.
2. Possession of or being under the influence of illegal drugs or any mood modifiers, or possession of look-alike drug items or drug paraphernalia. This includes supplying prescription medications to unauthorized persons.
3. Sale or exchange of or intent to sell or exchange illegal drugs, look-alike drugs, “designer drugs” or alcoholic beverages.
4. Sexual harassment violations. This includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, engaging in improper physical contact, and making improper sexual comments. Penalty is commensurate with seriousness of the violation considering all relevant circumstances.
5. Possession or use of a weapon. The term weapons shall mean any object or instrument, the principal use of which is to inflict injury or physical harm upon the person of another, or the use of which may result in pain or suffering. The term weapons shall also include a facsimile of objects or instruments, which are weapons. The term weapons shall additionally include an object or instrument which is not in and of itself a weapon as defined above, but where the possession or use of same is coupled with intent by a student to inflict injury or harm upon another person.
6. Possession or use of a dangerous weapon. The term “dangerous weapon” shall mean a firearm (including a starter gun) or any device which will or is designed to be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, any destructive device or any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine, or similar device; a dagger, stiletto, knife with a blade over three (3) inches in length, or pocket knife opened by a mechanical device; an iron bar or brass knuckles; or any other weapon as set forth in 18 USC Section 921.
7. Arson.
8. Criminal sexual conduct.
9. Physical assault against school district employees, visitors, students, volunteers, or contractors.
10. False fire alarms, bomb scare, threats or messages concerning school operations, school safety.
11. Possession or use of fireworks or other explosive materials, or smoke bombs.
12. Illegal gambling.
13. Gang-related violations, Satanism or satanic messages. This includes, but is not limited to, any related dress, display of “colors,” or graffiti. Penalty is commensurate with seriousness of the violation considering all relevant circumstances. (Zero Tolerance Policy)
14. Threatening a teacher, school employee, or other adult lawfully permitted by the building principal to be on school property, or damaging teachers’ property. Local authorities may be contacted, and a complaint may be filed.
15. Extortion or other threatening behavior.
16. Any aggressive or dangerous behavior toward another student or the use by any student of any object with the intent to cause bodily harm; assault.
17. Indecent exposure.

RIVERVIEW COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular school attendance is a critical factor for academic success. It is very important for students to be in school and on time every day. Most of our students have excellent attendance. Unfortunately, each year we have students who have frequent incidents of incomplete instruction time due to absence, tardiness, and early departure. These incidents not only cost the student valuable instruction time, but also interrupt the instruction of other students in the classroom.

Parents and guardians are expected to make sure their children attend school on a regular basis. If your child misses no more than five or six days (national average) of school each year you are on target. If your child misses more than five or six days, please read this policy carefully.

The intent of this policy is to:

- Clearly communicate parental and student expectations for school attendance.
- Promote communication between school and home regarding attendance.
- Provide intervention to promote and encourage continuous and consecutive attendance.
- Reduce the current level of absences, tardiness and early departures.
- Encourage full attendance by all students.

General:

- This policy was written in accordance with the following laws, ordinances, and guidelines:
 - Michigan Compulsory Education Law (MCL 380.1147, 380.1278a, 380.1278b, 380.1284, 380.1284b, 380.1561- 380.1599, MCL 388.1701
 - Wayne County Third Circuit Court, Family Division, Juvenile Division, Erase Truancy
 - Riverview Ordinance Subpart A, Chapter 38, Article IX, Division 1, Sec 38-371, and Sec 38-378.) These documents are available on the school website.
- Parents within the State of Michigan are required by law to see that their children attend school continuously and consecutively until they reach the age of 18.
- Students within the Riverview School District are required to attend school continuously and consecutively for the entire year from the age of 12 up to the age of 18. (Wayne County Third Circuit Court, Family Division, Juvenile Division, Truancy.)
- When a student is absent from school, parents are encouraged to report the absence to the school office on that day. Parents must call the school no later than 7:45 AM on the day following the absence for the absence to be recorded as excused. The parent's daytime telephone number needs to be included in the message. Parents can call **at any time** to report an absence using the **24-hour voicemail**, option #1 when calling the main number. Failure to report an absence will result in the absence being recorded as unexcused, and a robo-call will be made to the home that evening. The attendance number for each school is listed below:
- Parents may do a homework request by calling the office or by leaving a request on the answering machine before 9:00 AM if the student is going to be absent from school for more than one day.

A student that is absent for more than 50% of the school day may not participate in a sporting event (practice or game) or a club activity that is scheduled on that calendar day unless it is a documented absence.

Attendance Infractions:

There are three types of attendance infractions. They are absence, tardiness, and early departure. These incidents cost the student valuable instruction time and disrupt classroom instruction.

Absences: Absences can be documented, excused, or unexcused. Each absence type is defined below.

- **Documented Absence:** An absence that is accompanied by third party, professional documentation for the following reasons:
 - **Medical** - The student was absent because of illness or to obtain health care. If an illness is chronic or long term, administration should be notified and a note from a health professional should be submitted and filed.
 - **Religious** - Student absence was caused by observance of religious occasions formally recognized by an organized faith to which the student or the student's family belongs, and which

requires abstinence from the activities of daily life or attendance at religious services. A note on the letterhead of the religious organization is acceptable.

- **Family Emergency** - Student absence was caused by family emergencies such as a death or funeral, serious illness, or other crisis requiring absence from school.
- **Administrative** - Absences that are necessary for personal or confidential reasons, such as court appearances, funerals, child abuse situations or other extenuating circumstances, or the student becomes ill during the school day, and it is necessary to go home.
- **School Activity**- A school activity absence is an absence from school or class initiated by school activities or functions.
- **Suspension**: A suspension absence is an absence due to a suspension from school for violation of the Student Code of Conduct. When students are suspended, they may not be on school grounds, or attend or participate in any extracurricular activities.
- **Excused Absence**: Any absence called in by the parent or legal guardian but **not** documented as presented in A above. **Some examples of excused absences include, but are not limited to:**
 - Staying home because the child did not feel well, but medical attention was not sought
 - Vehicle Breakdown
 - Sporting events and trips (not school related)
 - Staying home to visit, shop, attend movies, and celebrate birthdays with family and/friends
 - Student is kept at home due to parent's, sibling's or other family member's illness
- **Unexcused**: Any absence that is not called in by the parent or legal guardian and is **not** documented as presented in A and B above.
- **Tardiness**: Students are expected to be in class on time. Students are tardy if they are not in their class when the morning bell rings. Tardiness and early departure will be classified under the same criteria provided for absences.
- **Early Departure**: Students are expected to remain at school for the entire school day. An early departure occurs when the student leaves or is removed from school prior to the dismissal bell. **Students MUST check out in the front office and exit through main office doors when leaving early for the day.**

Parent Notification Concerning Attendance Infractions:

Early notification and intervention provides the greatest opportunity to improve student attendance. In addition to the robo-call for notification of absences, Riverview Community Schools will send three letters to parents and guardians informing them of attendance infractions, and providing the opportunity to discuss the attendance concerns with the building principal or assistant principal.

These letters will be sent to the home after a student has accumulated six, ten and more than ten **undocumented** attendance infractions for the school year. This includes any combination of tardiness, absence, and early departure. An attendance report will accompany each letter. The letters can be found at www.riverviewschools.com under the attendance tab on the left. The letters are labeled Appendix A-C.

Riverview Ordinance Subpart A, Chapter 38, Article IX, Division 1, Sec 38-371, and Sec 38-378.): Parents within the Riverview School District are required by law to see that their children attend school continuously and consecutively until they reach the age of 16.

Truancy:

Students are required to attend school continuously and consecutively for the entire year from the age of 12 up to the age of 18. Students who have excessive **undocumented** attendance infractions for the school year will be referred to the Riverview Police Department, and upon the recommendation of the Riverview Police Department, be referred either to the 27th District Court, Wyandotte Michigan, or the Wayne County Third Circuit Court, Family Division, Juvenile Division, for truancy.