# RIDGEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

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#### R 5600 STUDENT DISCIPLINE/CODE OF CONDUCT

### A. Purpose

The Student Code of Conduct and this Regulation are established to achieve the following purposes:

- 1. Foster the health, safety, social, and emotional well-being of students;
- 2. Support the establishment and maintenance of civil, safe, secure, supportive, and disciplined school environments conducive to learning;
- 3. Promote achievement of high academic standards;
- 4. Prevent the occurrence of problem behaviors;
- 5. Establish parameters for the intervention and remediation of problem student behaviors at all stages of identification; and
- 6. Establish parameters for school responses to violations of the code of student conduct that take into account, at a minimum, the severity of the offenses, the developmental ages of student offenders and students' histories of inappropriate behaviors in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2 through 7.9, as appropriate.
- B. Expectations for Academic Achievement, Behavior, and Attendance

All students have a responsibility to comply with State statutes and administrative codes for academic achievement, behavior, and attendance, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8 and 12.1.

C. Behaviors That May Result in Suspension or Expulsion

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, any student who is guilty of continued and willful disobedience, open defiance of the authority of any teacher or person having authority over the student, the habitual use of profanity or of obscene language, or who shall



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cut, deface or otherwise injure any school property, shall be liable to punishment and to suspension or expulsion from school. Conduct which shall constitute good cause for suspension or expulsion of a student guilty of such conduct shall include, but not be limited to, any of the following:

- 1. Continued and willful disobedience;
- 2. Open defiance of the authority of any teacher or person, having authority over the student;
- 3. Conduct of such character as to constitute a continuing danger to the physical well-being of other students;
- 4. Physical assault upon another student;
- 5. Taking, or attempting to take, personal property or money from another student, or from the student's presence, by means of force or fear;
- 6. Willfully causing, or attempting to cause, substantial damage to school property;
- 7. Participation in an unauthorized occupancy by any group of students or others of any part of any school or other building owned by any school district, and failure to leave such school or other facility promptly after having been directed to do so by the Principal or other person then in charge of such building or facility;
- 8. Incitement which is intended to and does result in unauthorized occupation by any group of students or others of any part of a school or other facility owned by any school district;
- 9. Incitement which is intended to and does result in truancy by other students;
- 10. Knowing possession or knowing consumption without legal authority of alcoholic beverages or controlled dangerous substances on school premises, or being under the influence of intoxicating liquor or controlled dangerous substances while on school premises; and



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11. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

Students shall also be suspended from school for assault upon a school staff member in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2.1 and 2.2.

### D. Students' Rights

Students subject to the consequences of the Student Discipline/Code of Conduct Policy and Regulation shall be informed of their rights, pursuant to <u>N.J.A.C</u>. 6A:16-7.1(c)3.i. through vii., that include:

- 1. Advance notice of behaviors that will result in suspensions and expulsions that have been identified under authority of N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2;
- 2. Education that supports students' development into productive citizens;
- 3. Attendance in safe and secure school environments;
- 4. Attendance at school irrespective of students' marriage, pregnancy, or parenthood;
- 5. Due process and appeal procedures, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:3-1.3 through 1.17, N.J.A.C. 6A:4 and, where applicable, N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.7 and 2.8, and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2 through 7.5;
- 6. Parent notification consistent with the policies and procedures established pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2(b)3 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1 through 7.98; and
- 7. Protections pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; 34 CFR Part 99, Family Educational Rights and Privacy; 20 U.S.C. § 1232h, Protection of Student Rights; 34 CFR Part 98, Student Rights in Research, Experimental Programs and Testing; P.L. 104-191, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act; 45 CFR Part 160, General Administrative Requirements; 20 U.S.C. § 7165, Transfer of school disciplinary records; 42 CFR Part 2, Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records; N.J.S.A.



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18A:40A-7.1, Confidentiality of certain information provided by student exceptions; N.J.A.C. 6A:16-3.2, Confidentiality of student alcohol and other drug information; N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19, student records, creation, maintenance and retention, security and access, regulations, nonliability; N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60, Disclosure of juvenile information, penalties for disclosure; N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7, Student Records; N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.9, Student records, as well as other existing Federal and State laws and rules pertaining to student protections.

### E. Comprehensive Behavioral Supports

Below are behavioral supports that promote positive student development and the students' abilities to fulfill the behavioral expectations established by the Board. These behavioral supports may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Supportive Interventions and Referral Services

A student may be referred to the school's Intervention and Referral Services Team in accordance with the provisions of <u>N.J.A.C</u>. 6A:16-8.1 and 8.2 and Policy and Regulation 2417.

#### 2. Remediation of Problem Behavior

The following actions may be taken to remediate problem behavior. These actions will take into account the behavior's nature, the students' developmental ages, and the students' histories of problem behaviors and performance.

#### a. Restitution and Restoration

- (1) A student may be required to make restitution for any loss resulting from the student's conduct; or
- (2) A student may be required, at the discretion of the school district and when appropriate, to restore to its former condition any damaged or defaced property resulting from the student's conduct.



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### b. Counseling

- (1) A student may be required to consult with school guidance counselors, Child Study Team members, or other appropriate staff members.
- (2) The counselor will explain why the student's conduct is unacceptable to the school and damaging to the student, what the consequences of continued misconduct are likely to be, and appropriate alternative behaviors.
- (3) The counselor may refer the student, as appropriate, for additional counseling, evaluation, intervention, treatment, or therapy. Referrals may be made to the Child Study Team, the school's Intervention and Referral Services Team, a public or private social agency, a legal agency, or any other referral service that may assist the student.

#### c. Parent Conferences

(1) Students may be required to attend a meeting with their parent and appropriate school staff members to discuss the causes of the student's behavior, possible remediation, potential disciplinary measures, and alternative conduct.

### d. Alternate Educational Program

- (1) Students may be assigned to an alternate educational program as recommended by the student's guidance counselor, classroom teacher, Child Study Team, and/or other school staff member.
- e. In-House Counseling Program (CarePlus New Jersey)

#### 3. Students with Disabilities

For students with disabilities, the remedial measures and behavioral interventions and supports shall be determined and provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14.



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- F. School Responses to Violations of Behavioral Expectations
  - 1. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(c)5, the Student Code of Conduct shall include a description of school responses to violations of behavioral expectations established by the Board of Education that, at a minimum are graded according to the severity of the offenses, and consider the developmental ages of the student offenders and their histories of inappropriate behavior that shall:
    - a. Include a continuum of actions designed to remediate and, where necessary or required by law, to impose sanctions;
    - b. Be consistent with other responses, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.5;
    - c. Provide for equitable application of the Code of Student Conduct without regard to race; color; religion; ancestry; national origin; nationality; sex; gender; sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; marital, domestic-partnership, or civil union; mental, physical, or sensory disability; or any other distinguishing characteristic, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et seq. and
    - d. Be consistent with provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-1, Corporal Punishment of Students.
- G. Description of School Responses

School responses to violations of behavioral expectations are listed below:

- 1. Admonishment/Reprimand
  - a. A school staff member in authority may admonish or reprimand a student's unacceptable conduct and warn the student that additional misconduct may warrant a more severe penalty.
- 2. Temporary Removal from Classroom
  - a. The classroom teacher may direct the student report to the office of the administrator in charge of student discipline.



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- b. The teacher will notify the appropriate staff member or designee the student's name and the conduct that has caused the student's removal from the teacher's room.
- c. The administrator in charge of discipline will interview the student and determine which, if any, additional consequences shall be imposed.
- 3. Meeting with School Administration and Parent
  - a. The student's parent may be required to attend a meeting with the Principal or designee and the student to discuss the student's conduct and to ensure the parent and the student understand school rules and expectations.
- 4. Deprivation of Privileges
  - a. Students may be deprived privileges as disciplinary sanctions when designed to maintain the order and integrity of the school environment. These privileges may include, but are not limited to:
    - (1) Moving freely about the school building;
    - (2) Participation in co-curricular or inter/intrascholastic activities;
    - (3) Attendance at a school-related social or sports activity;
    - (4) Participation in a graduation ceremony;
    - (5) Transportation to and from school on a school bus; or
    - (6) Any other privilege the Building Principal or designee determines may be appropriate and consistent with Policy and Regulation 5600 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1 et seq.

#### 5. Detention

a. A student may be required to report before or after the school day or during lunch time to detention. This detention may be assigned by the teacher or the Principal or designee.



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- b. Transportation to detention before school or from detention after school will be the responsibility of the parent.
- c. A student may be excused from detention only for an unavoidable commitment previously made; any such excused detention must be made up on another day.

### 6. Grade Adjustment

a. A student who has cheated on a test or assignment, plagiarized material, falsified sources, refused to submit assignments, or otherwise indulged in academic dishonesty or negligence may suffer a reduced grade by virtue of the disqualified work. In no other instance may a student's grade be lowered as a direct penalty for misconduct.

### 7. In-school Suspension

- a. If the school operates an in-school suspension program, a student may be removed from his/her regular classes and required to report to the in-school suspension program.
- b. In-school suspension will not be imposed without the due process procedures set forth in Policy and Regulation 5610.

### 8. Suspension from School

- a. A student may be denied the right to attend school for a period of time pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.2 and 6A:16-7.3, and Policy 5610.
- b. Suspension from school will not be imposed without the due process procedures set forth in Policy and Regulation 5610.

### 9. Expulsion

a. The Board may expel a general education student from school, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.4, and Policy 5620.



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b. Expulsion is an extremely serious disciplinary measure and will not be imposed without the due process set forth in Policy and Regulation 5610 and Policy 5620.

### H. Chart of Discipline

- 1. See individual schools' Code of Conduct attached at the end of the regulation.
- 2. The school responses to violations of behavioral expectations that are subject to student discipline including suspension or expulsion pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2 outlined in the individual schools' Code of Conduct shall be consistent with the Board's policies and regulations/procedures on attendance, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6 and harassment, intimidation, and bullying, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.7.
- 3. The Principal or designee will maintain a list of community-based health and social service provider agencies available to support a student and a student's family, as appropriate, and a list of legal resources available to serve the community.
- 4. The Board of Education may deny participation in extra-curricular activities, school functions, sports, graduation exercises, or other privileges as disciplinary sanctions when designed to maintain the order and integrity of the school environment.
- 5. Nothing in Policy and Regulation 5600 shall prevent the school administration from imposing a consequence for unacceptable student conduct not listed or included in a Chart of Student Discipline.

### I. Student Conduct Away from School Grounds

- 1. The Building Principal or designee has the right to impose a consequence on a student for conduct away from school grounds that is consistent with the Board's Code of Student Conduct, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1.
  - a. This authority shall be exercised only when it is reasonably necessary for the student's physical or emotional safety, security, and well-being or for reasons relating to the safety, security, and well-being of other students, staff, or school grounds, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:25-2 and 18A:37-2.



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- b. This authority shall be exercised only when the conduct that is the subject of the proposed consequence materially and substantially interferes with the requirements of appropriate discipline in the operation of the school.
- c. Consequences for conduct away from school grounds shall be handled in accordance with the Board approved Code of Student Conduct, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1, Policy and Regulation 5600, and as appropriate, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7-2, 7.3, or 7.4.
- 2. School authorities shall respond to harassment, intimidation, or bullying that occurs off school grounds, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 and 15.3 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3, 7.1, and 7.7.

#### J. School Bus Conduct

Violations of the rules regarding student conduct on school buses will be handled as follows:

- 1. The bus driver will report unacceptable conduct to the Principal of the school in which the student is enrolled by submission of a completed written report that includes the name of the student, the school, and the student's conduct.
- 2. The Principal or designee will investigate the matter, which may include meeting with the bus driver, bus aide, other students on the school bus, and the student who was reported by the bus driver.
- 3. The parent will be notified of the student's reported conduct.
- 4. The Principal or designee will make a determination if the student violated behavioral expectations and the discipline to be administered in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.
- 5. If it is determined the misconduct is severe, the student may be suspended from the bus pending a conference with the parent.



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#### K. Students with Disabilities

For students with disabilities, subject to Individualized Education Programs in accordance with 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq., the Individuals with Disabilities Educational Improvement Act, N.J.A.C. 6A:14, and accommodation plans under 29 U.S.C. §§ 794 and 705(20), student discipline and the Code of Student Conduct shall be implemented in accordance with the components of the applicable plans.

#### L. Records

- 1. Instances of student discipline will be recorded in the student's file in strict compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1 et seq. and Policy and Regulation 8330.
- 2. When a student transfers to a public school district from another public school district, all information in the student's record related to disciplinary actions taken against the student by the school district and any information the school district has obtained pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60, Disclosure of Juvenile Information; Penalties for Disclosure, shall be provided to the receiving public school district, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19(a), and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.5.
  - a. The record shall be provided within two weeks of the date that the student enrolls in the receiving district.
  - b. Written consent of the parent or adult student shall not be required as a condition of the record transfer; however, written notice of the transfer shall be provided to the parent or the adult student.
- 3. When a student transfers to a private school, which includes all sectarian or nonsectarian, nonprofit, institutional day, or residential schools that provide education for students placed by their parents and that are controlled by other than public authority, all student disciplinary records with respect to suspensions or expulsions, shall be provided by the public school district of residence to the private school upon written request from the parent, in the same manner the records would be provided to a public school, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 6301, Title IV § 4155 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.



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- 4. The Board shall not use a student's past offenses on record to discriminate against the student.
- 5. All student disciplinary records pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7 shall conform with the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.8(d).

#### M. Annual Review

The Superintendent will designate a school staff member to coordinate an annual review and update of Policy and Regulation 5600. The Superintendent's designee will:

- 1. Compile an annual summary report of violations of the student behavioral expectations and the associated school responses to the violations in the Student Discipline/Code of Conduct Policy and Regulation.
- 2. Convene a Student Discipline/Code of Conduct Committee comprised of parents, students, and community members that represent the composition of the district's schools and community to review the annual summary report and to develop recommendations, if any, to improve and update the Student Discipline/Code of Conduct Policy and Regulation.
- 3. The Superintendent's designee shall submit the Committee's recommendations, if any, to improve or update the Student Discipline/Code of Conduct Policy and Regulation.
- 4. The Superintendent will review the Committee's report with school administrators and will determine if the Student Discipline/Code of Conduct Policy and Regulation should be updated.
- 5. The Superintendent will recommend to the Board revisions to the Student Discipline/Code of Conduct Policy, if needed.



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### N. Policy and Regulation Publication and Distribution

The Student Discipline/Code of Conduct Policy and Regulation 5600, including the Chart of Student Discipline shall be disseminated annually to all school staff, students, and parents. These documents may be disseminated in handbooks, electronically, or in hard copy form. Principals will ensure these documents are made available to all students on or before the first day of each school year and to transferring students on the first day of their enrollment in this district.

Adopted: 9 February 2015 Revised: 11 September 2017 Revised: 1 April 2019

Revised: 29 July 2019 (Student Code of Conducts)



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Infant Toddler Development Center (ITDC)
Ridgewood Early Achievement for Children (REACH)
Ridgewood Early Development Program (RED)
Glen School
Ridgewood, New Jersey

### Student Code of Conduct

Students in the Glen School are taught to follow the Golden Rule:

Treat other people and their things the way you would like to be treated.

We believe that this rule is a helpful compass to guide behavioral learning for our youngest students.

Faculty and staff regularly address this rule in their daily interactions with our students. Our philosophy of clear and developmentally-appropriate expectations, coupled with patient and friendly behavior modification, focuses on teaching a student to act and respond appropriately by positively reinforcing appropriate behavior.

We do not discriminate based on gender, religion or any other protected class, and our policies and practices are implemented without regard to membership in such groups.



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Hawes Elementary School • Orchard Elementary School • Ridge Elementary School Somerville Elementary School • Travell Elementary School • Willard Elementary School Ridgewood, New Jersey

#### Student Code of Conduct

Students in the Ridgewood Public School District's six elementary schools are expected to follow the Golden Rule:

Treat other people and their things the way you would like to be treated.

We believe that this rule is a clear compass to guide all behavior in all situations. In addition to modeling this rule through daily actions, the faculty and staff regularly address this rule through weekly character education sessions, regular read aloud sessions and school wide events.

We believe that elementary school is a time to grow and learn from mistakes. Therefore, we are guided by a progressive discipline philosophy. We have listed some possible consequences for violating our Student Code of Conduct, in order of severity. Because we believe that the consequences for students should have meaning and help them learn, we also explore alternative forms of discipline if we feel it is in the best interest of the students.

Infractions that are not acceptable in a school environment include: harassment, intimidation, bullying\*, theft, destruction and/or defacing school property, fighting, leaving school property without permission, disrespect to fellow students/ faculty, violation of acceptable use policy for technology, and inappropriate behavior that is disruptive to the learning or safety of others.

#### Possible consequences include:

- Discussion with students and/ or their parents
- Written Reflection
- · Lunch / Recess detention
- · After school detention
- Removal from field trips or extracurricular activities
- Alternative discipline such as an assignment or community service
- Suspension or expulsion in the case of dangerous or unsafe behavior, serious or repeated harassment, intimidation, bullying,\* fighting, theft or vandalism.

Our discipline standard requires that we address any action of which we are made aware by investigating it and, if necessary, by implementing discipline. Our philosophy of progressive discipline focuses on teaching a student to behave properly so the consequence may be simply talking to a student and recording the incident, or as severe as a suspension. Should a student repeat the same offense or several small offenses, s/he will receive more severe discipline. Counseling and the Child Study Team services may be utilized in order to assist students in adhering to the Student Code of Conduct. Teachers and administrators provide additional group and individual support as appropriate.

Student conduct is almost never black and white and we will provide due diligence in any investigation, but we are not a court of law. We do not discriminate based on gender, age, religious orientation or any other protected class, and our policies and practices are implemented without regard to membership in such groups. We do not make public the disciplinary actions that we impose on a student, even to the family of a victim if there is one. We respect the privacy of all students.

### Cell Phones

Cell phone/smart watch use is not permitted while elementary students are in school. A cell phone and/or smart watch must be turned off and left in the student's backpack during school hours.



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Benjamin Franklin Middle School and George Washington Middle School Student Code of Conduct

Students of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin Middle Schools are expected to show respect for each other and for school property and personal property. They are also expected to adhere to high standards of integrity and honesty and to share in the responsibility to see that school rules are followed with fairness and consistency.

It is important for students to understand the consequences of violating basic school rules. Listed below are possible infractions of our Student Code of Conduct. We believe that middle school is a time to learn from mistakes. Therefore, we are guided by a progressive discipline philosophy. We have listed some possible consequences for violating our Student Code of Conduct, in order of severity. Because we believe that the consequences for students should have meaning and help them learn, we also explore alternative forms of discipline if we feel it is in the best interest of the students.

Infractions that are not acceptable in a school environment include: harassment, intimidation, bullying\*, cutting class, truancy from school, use of tobacco or tobacco-like products, use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol, theft, destruction and/or defacing of school property, fighting, leaving school property without permission, disrespect to fellow students/faculty, violation of acceptable use policy for technology, inappropriate behavior that is disruptive to the learning or safety of others.

#### Possible consequences include:

- Discussion with students
- Discussion with student and parents
- Lunch detention
- After school detention
- Alternative discipline such as an assignment or community service
- Suspension or expulsion in the following cases:
  - Dangerous or unsafe behavior
  - o Possession and/or use of illegal drugs or alcohol
  - o Serious or repeated harassment, intimidation, bullying\*, fighting, theft or vandalism

Our discipline standard requires that we address any action of which we are made aware by investigating it, and if necessary by implementing discipline. Our philosophy of progressive discipline focuses on teaching a student to behave properly, so the consequence may be simply talking to a student and recording an incident, or as severe as suspension. Should a student repeat the same offense or several small offenses, s/he will receive more severe discipline. Counseling, advisory, and Child Study Team services may be utilized in order to assist students in adhering to the Student Code of Conduct. Teachers and administrators provide additional group and individual support as appropriate.

Student conduct is almost never black and white, and we will provide due diligence in any investigation. We are not a court of law, and we look for a preponderance of the truth in any situation. We do not discriminate based on gender, age, religious orientation, or any other protected class, and our policies and practices are implemented without regard to membership in such groups. We do not make public the disciplinary actions that we impose on a student, even to the family of a victim if there is one. We respect the privacy of all students.



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### Ridgewood High School Student Code of Conduct Vision of the School Culture

Our vision has eight norms that we ask all members of our school community to apply to their daily interactions

- 1. Collegiality working successfully with and learning from others
- 2. Experimentation trying new ideas and looking for more effective ways of teaching
- 3. Trust & Confidence trusting the integrity of others, acting with personal integrity
- 4. Appreciation & Recognition honoring good effort and achievements
- 5. Caring, Celebration & Humor having fun together and showing that we care for others
- 6. Involvement in decision-making having a voice in the decision, policies, and procedures that impact our lives
- 7. Traditions continuing the ceremonies that symbolize who we are and creating new traditions
- 8. Open, honest communications taking responsibility for sending accurate messages, talking face-to-face, resolving conflicts respectfully

These norms are from the work of Drs. John Saphier and Matt King and are explained in their article, "Good Seeds Grow in Strong Cultures".

Students of RHS are expected to show respect for themselves and others and for school personal property. They are also expected to adhere to high standards of integrity and honesty and to share in the responsibility to see that school rules are followed with fairness and consistency by all.

Part of the education process is to learn to create good and positive relationships with people and to be able to work in a demanding environment. This process of growing into mature young adults is exactly that, a process. It is our goal to use various means to foster our "Vision of a School Culture." RHS also believes that an effective instructional program requires an orderly school environment and that the effectiveness of the educational program is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students. Therefore, we are guided by a progressive discipline philosophy.

Possible consequences include:

- Discussion with student
- Discussion with student and parents/guardians
- After school detention(s)
- Exclusion from Co-Curricular Activities
- Suspension or expulsion in the following cases:



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- o Possession and/or use of illegal drugs or alcohol
- o Serious or repeated harassment, intimidation, bullying, dangerous or unsafe behavior, fighting, theft or vandalism
- Serious offenses of insubordination

RHS' discipline standard requires any action brought to the attention of faculty/staff to be addressed by investigating it, and if necessary by implementing discipline. RHS' philosophy of progressive discipline focuses on teaching a student to behave properly, so the consequence may range from simply talking to a student and recording an incident to suspension. Should a student repeat the same offense or several small offenses, she/he will receive more severe discipline. Counseling or Child Study Team services may be utilized in order to assist students in adhering to the Student Code of Conduct. Teachers and administrators provide additional group and individual support as appropriate.

In keeping with the notion that student maturation is a process, it is understood that student conduct is almost never black and white. We will engage with due diligence in any investigation we conduct into any offense and strive to arrive at a fair outcome. We do not discriminate based on gender, age, religious orientation, or any other protected class, and our policies and practices are implemented without regard to membership in such groups. We do not make public the disciplinary actions that we impose on a student, even to the family of a victim if there is one. We respect the privacy of all students.

RHS is an institution that encourages the mutual respect of all persons who work or visit in the building. Staff members are requested to be aware of students' rights and feelings and to treat students with appropriate dignity. Students are asked to recognize that the Ridgewood staff has a variety of duties, some of which include the direction of students. Staff members who request a student's name, who question a student's behavior or who direct students to move to another location are fulfilling their responsibilities. In this regard, they must be given cooperation by students both in action and attitude. This applies to all areas of the building, including the campus, sports events and other school-sponsored activities. Field trips, sports events, and other school-sponsored activities are an integral part of the school program. The high school encourages these activities, but in order for them to have an optimal educational and social effect, proper norms of behavior must be followed. Students should recognize their responsibility to their activity advisor and to the school, and know that all school rules and regulations are in effect during these activities.

This Student Code of Conduct is in effect for all students during the school day, on all Ridgewood Board of Education property at any time, and during any school sponsored activity whether held on school grounds or off school grounds.



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#### Academic Integrity Policy

RHS prides itself on preparing students to become successful individuals in any area they wish to pursue. To continue Ridgewood's tradition of excellence, it is expected that all students will act honorably and approach their academic career with integrity. Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an honest, truthful, and responsible manner. Violating the policy below, to any extent is wrong and a disservice to one's own educational progress, as well as that of others. Violations include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating and unapproved collaboration. The classroom teacher is the arbiter as to whether or not a violation has occurred. All members of the RHS community should be familiar with the following violations and consequences.

### **Academic Integrity Policy Guidelines**

### A. Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when individuals attempt to present as their own what has come from another source. Plagiarism takes place whether such theft is accidental or deliberate. It is no defense to claim that one has "forgotten" to document ideas or material taken from another source.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- Using the ideas of another person, in total or part of, whether or not such ideas are paraphrased, from whatever source including oral, print, broadcast, or computer-mediated communication
- Knowingly failing to use proper citation for information obtained from print sources or the internet, according to citation criteria specified by the instructor or in cases where instructor guidance is not given, by standard manuals of style (e.g. The Chicago Manual of Style, MLA, APA)
- Rewriting borrowed material by simply dropping a word here and there, substituting a few words for others, or moving around words or sentence
- Knowingly presenting borrowed material, whether a phrase, sentence, or whole paragraphs without placing quotation marks around the borrowed material in the approved style
- Presenting an assignment as one's own that has been partially or wholly prepared by another person or business



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#### B. Cheating

Cheating occurs when individuals use course materials, information or devices (e.g., programmable calculator, cell phone) when such is unauthorized or prohibited.

Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to:

- Communicating information about assessment or assignments verbally or through writing, social media or any forms of technology (ex. texting, Facebook)
- Having or using unauthorized materials, information or an unauthorized device at an examination, test or quiz
- Copying from another student an assignment, paper, lab report, project, homework assignment, assessment or other assignment
- Permitting another student to copy from an assignment, paper, lab report, project, homework assignment, assessment or other assignment
- Obtaining and/or using an unauthorized examination, test, or quiz prior to its administration
- Having another person act as proxy to take an examination, test or quiz or to complete an assignment, paper, computer program, or project

### C. Unapproved Collaboration

Certain coursework and assignments such as team projects, papers, and laboratory work may involve collaboration. Unless expressly permitted or prescribed by the faculty member, students shall not engage in collaboration on graded assignments. It is the student's responsibility to ask for clarification from a faculty member to what extent, if at all, collaboration with others is allowed.

#### D. Other Violations of Academic Integrity

Additional violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to:

• Incidents of falsification. Falsification occurs when individuals make false statements that mislead others.

Examples of falsification include, but are not limited to:

- The creation of a false or misleading citation, or the manipulation of data for an academic assignment
- Submission of a paper or project to more than one course during the time in which a student is attending RHS, without the explicit permission from all the instructors involved
- Submission of work previously done in another school, whether modified or not, without permission of the instructor



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#### Academic Integrity Policy Consequences

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Offense:

- The teacher will conference with the student.
- The student will receive a zero on the assignment.
- The student will receive a 3:15 detention.
- Parent/guardian will be notified.
- Incident will be entered into Skyward as 1<sup>st</sup> reported offense.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:

- The teacher and the guidance counselor will conference with the student.
- The student will receive a zero on the assignment.
- The student will receive (2) 3:15 detentions.
- Parent/guardian will be notified.
- The student will revisit the AIP training to become better educated on AIP.
- Incident will be entered into Skyward as 2<sup>nd</sup> reported offense.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense:

- The guidance counselor, grade advisor, and a parent/guardian will conference with the student.
- The student will receive a zero on the assignment.
- The student will receive a full day in-school suspension.
- The student, with the guidance counselor, will revisit the AIP training to become better educated on AIP.
- The student may be removed or barred from a position of Examples include, the remainder of the school year. but are not limited Captains, class officers, National Honor Society, and Peer Counselors,
- Incident will be entered into Skyward as a 3<sup>rd</sup> reported offense.

All violations will be cumulative over four years and are kept in the student's discipline record. Subsequent infractions will be subject to further consequences.

\*The Academic Integrity Policy is based on parts of the Standards of Academic Integrity from Fordham University.



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### Academic Study Hall: (3:15 P.M. in the Learning Commons)

Guidelines: A teacher may assign an 'academic study hall' to a student who doesn't complete homework or a long-term assignment. An assigned academic study hall takes precedence over everything: athletic contests, doctor's appointments, jobs, etc. Students are dismissed at 3:30 P.M. if the assignment is completed.

Consequences: Failure to attend an academic study hall will result in assignment of a one-hour 3:15 P.M. detention. Failure to serve detentions may result in suspension.

#### Cell Phones

Guidelines: Students <u>may not</u> use school phones except in cases of emergency. Cell phone use is not permitted while a student is in class unless instructed to do so by the teacher, in the Learning Commons, or near classrooms. Cell phones shall be turned off or have alert tone silenced while students are in these areas. Students who use cell phones in restricted areas will be subject to disciplinary action and/or confiscation of their cell phone. Students who are serving suspension must hand over their cell phone for the day of their suspension.

Consequences: Violation of the Cell Phone Guidelines may result in the removal of the cell phone for the remainder of the day. Repeated offenses may result in afterschool detention(s).

#### **Cutting Class**

Guidelines: Students must attend scheduled classes on a regular basis in order to keep up with coursework, achieve course objectives, and earn the course credits required for a passing grade. Cutting class means being absent from a scheduled class without permission. This includes instructional periods as well as lunch and activities such as assemblies.

Consequences: Students who skip instructional or non-instructional periods will be subject to disciplinary actions such as a school letter to parents/guardians, detention, and/or suspension. If an absence is determined to be a cut, the student will receive no credit for work missed in the class and disciplinary action will follow.

#### Detention:

Guidelines: An assigned afternoon detention takes precedence over everything: athletic contests, doctor's appointments, jobs, etc.

Consequences: Failure to attend a scheduled afternoon detention will result in assignment of an additional one-hour 3:15 P.M. detention. Failure to serve detentions may result in suspension.



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### Disruptive Behavior

Guidelines: RHS believes the students are entitled to an education free from undue disruption. Students who willfully disrupt the educational program shall be subject to discipline. Every reasonable effort shall be made to determine and remediate the cause or causes of a chronically disruptive student's unacceptable conduct.

Consequences: Disruptive students will be referred to the Grade Advisor. Consequences may include and are not limited to afterschool detention(s) and/or suspension.

#### Disruptive Digital media/Electronic Communications (Non H.I.B.)

Guidelines: Use of electronic communications (i.e. social media) in order to hurt or disparage other student(s) is inconsistent with RHS' mission, core values and beliefs. Such behavior often disrupts the orderly operation of the school or infringes upon the rights of other students because of the immediacy provided by social media to a large portion of the student population. A student who uses electronic communications in order to hurt or disparage another student(s) and disrupts the orderly operation of the school or infringes upon the rights of other students will receive discipline.

Consequences: The student(s) will be referred to the Grade Advisor. Consequences may include, but are not limited to, afterschool detention(s) and/or suspension. The student may also be assigned to counseling. Students who respond in kind to hurtful expressions via social media may also be subject to discipline.

#### Driving/Biking/Skateboarding/Other

Guidelines: The use of skateboards, roller blades, self-balancing scooters, etc. is not permitted on RHS property. These items are not to be carried to class. Self-balancing scooters are banned from RHS property due to the fire danger they pose. Mopeds and bicycles may only be parked in the area designated at the entrance to the courtyard and should be properly locked.

There is NO STUDENT PARKING ON RHS PROPERTY for automobiles. Students who do park in unauthorized areas will be subject to municipal fines, towing and/or disciplinary action. <u>Please note</u>: There will be NO COURTESY WARNING for the first offense.

Consequences: Unauthorized cars parked in the Faculty Lot will be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense. Afterschool detention(s) may be assigned.



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#### Dress Code

Guidelines: Students have the right to determine individual patterns of dress and grooming as they deem proper provided that such dress and grooming do not interfere with the health and safety of themselves or others and do not interfere with the educational process of the school. The building Principal or Principal's designee is authorized to establish reasonable rules concerning student dress and grooming. Such rules shall:

- Encourage students to dress in good taste and present a general appearance which is appropriate;
- Prohibit clothing or adornment that disrupts the educational process;
- Prohibit dress which constitutes a potential safety or health hazard.

Student attire determined to be obscene, indecent, offensive to any race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, depicting illegal items or activity; including guns, alcohol, drugs, drug paraphernalia, etc., shall not be permitted.

Shoes or sandals must be worn at all times on school grounds unless exceptions are made by the building Principal for designated activities or in designated areas. Good judgment when selecting clothing for school is expected. Remember that weekend attire might not be appropriate for classes. Clothing, hairstyles, or other adornment may not interfere with the health and safety of any student and may not disrupt the educational process of the school. At the request of a staff member, items of clothing which are found offensive or questionable or which suggest a double meaning will be removed or replaced by students. Staff members may require students to remove hats during class.

Fashion items that are not in good taste or dress that disrupts the educational process include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Necklines that are too low
- Bare midriffs
- Shorts, skirts, dresses, or shirts that are extremely tight, short, or transparent
- Pants that permit the display of underwear, whether because they are worn low or have a low rise

Consequences: Student will be asked to change the inappropriate clothing. Student may also be subject to disciplinary actions resulting in a detention or suspension.



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#### Drugs and Alcohol

Guidelines: Possession, use, sale, intent to sell, or distribution of drugs and/or alcohol is prohibited in school buildings, on school grounds, on school buses and during school-sponsored activities. Such offenses are a major infraction of school rules and are unlawful. It is the basic philosophy of this school to take aggressive action to eliminate the use of any and all illegal substances, including alcohol, not only during the school day, but at all school events. These rules apply to all routine field trips, to school events held off school grounds and to all overnight trips.

Consequences: Students should be aware that school authorities will take all reasonable steps to prevent the use of drugs, alcohol or steroids on school property or school-sponsored events and to apprehend those who possess, use, or distribute drugs, alcohol or steroids. The consequences may also apply to students possessing or distributing a controlled dangerous substance off school premises when such involvement directly affects their involvement or attendance in school.

These steps will include but are not limited to:

- locker, desk, personal property and clothing searches when there is reasonable suspicion that inspection is warranted
- required urine screening and/or blood test to determine presence of drugs, alcohol, or steroids when observation of student behavior suggests the possibility of being under the influence.

Possession of drug paraphernalia, not containing any drugs, alcohol or steroids.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Offense:

- Parents/guardians notified.
- Referral to Crisis Counselor for assessment and recommendation of action plan.
- Paraphernalia turned in to police with name of individual.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:

Same as above, as well as imposition of out-of-school suspension up to ten (10) nine (9) days.

Possession of drugs, alcohol, or steroids

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Offense:

- Police will be notified and appropriate action taken.
- Parents/guardians notified.



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- Referral to the district contracted agency for evaluation and recommended action plan.
- Imposition of up to thirty (30) days out-of-school suspension, ten (10) days of which may be imposed without Board of Education action, the remainder of the penalty being served after a hearing before the Board of Education.
- Parents/guardians may be requested to agree to have the student subjected to voluntary drug testing for the duration of the student's enrollment in the district. If parents/guardians agree to testing, the additional twenty (20) days will not be imposed.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:

Same as above and an EXPULSION HEARING before the Board of Education will be scheduled.

Under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or steroids

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Offense:

- Police will be notified.
- Parents/guardians notified.
- Immediate\* medical examination as per Board Policy 5530.
- Upon verification of positive diagnosis of drugs, alcohol or steroids use, an imposition of up to thirty (30) day suspension, ten of which may be imposed without Board of Education action, the remainder may be imposed after a hearing before the Board of Education.
- A medical statement substantiating the student's well-being will be required before re-entry.
- Parents/guardians may be requested to agree to have student subjected to voluntary random drug testing for the duration of the student's enrollment in the district. If parents/guardians agree to testing, the additional twenty (20) days of suspension will not be imposed.
- Referral to the district contracted agency for assessment and treatment plan.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:

Same as above and an EXPULSION HEARING before the Board of Education will be scheduled.

Students suspected of being under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or steroids identified in N.J.A.C. 6:29-6.3(a).

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Offense:

- Police notified.
- Parents/guardians notified.
- Immediate\* medical examination as per Board Policy 5530.



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- Re-entry to school
  - Medical statement substantiating student's state of well-being is required before re-entry after positive diagnosis of chemical use.
  - o Parent/legal guardians may be requested to agree to have student subjected to voluntary, random drug testing for the duration of the student's enrollment in the district.
  - Referral to district contracted agency for assessment and treatment plan and agreement to follow through with recommendations from assessment plan.

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Above and an expulsion hearing before the Board of Education.

\*Please Note: If school officials believe that a student may be under the influence of an intoxicating drug, State Law (NJAC 6:29-9.1) mandates an immediate medical examination. This examination may be performed by a school physician (if available), by a private physician (at no expense to the Board of Education), or at the Emergency Room of the Valley Hospital. The student must present a note, provided by RHS, signed by the examining physician stating that the student is fit to return to school.

Sale, Intent to Sell, Transfer, or Distribute Drugs, Alcohol, or Steroids

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Offense:

- Police notified.
- Parents/guardians notified .
- Minimum ten (10)- day out-of-school suspension pending EXPULSION HEARING before the Board of Education.
- Parent/legal guardians may be requested to agree to have student subjected to voluntary, random drug testing for the duration of the student's enrollment in the district.
- Referral to district contracted agency for assessment and treatment plan and agreement to follow through with recommendations from assessment plan.

#### Fighting/Assault/Aggressive Behavior

Guidelines: A public school can neither condone the use of violence in any situation, nor be responsible for determining if a violent response was appropriate. A fight is defined as a violent encounter between two or more persons. An assault is when an individual purposely inflicts physical harm upon another. Aggressive behavior, form of physical or verbal behavior leading to self-assertion, is not acceptable in a public school and will not be tolerated.

Consequences: All students involved in a confrontation that involves violence or aggressive behavior will receive disciplinary action which will include suspension.



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#### Fraudulent Communications

Guidelines: It is the responsibility of a student's parent/guardian to communicate with RHS regarding attendance, field trip permissions etc. Students are not to communicate with RHS on their parent's behalf. If a student is unable to have a parent/guardian call the Attendance Office or other school personnel, the student should contact his/her Grade Advisor for guidance.

Consequences: A student that makes a fraudulent communication with RHS staff will receive consequences which will include detention(s) or suspension. When a fraudulent communication is used to excuse an absence, the absence will be considered unexcused.

#### Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (H.I.B.)\*

Guidelines: The Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act defines harassment, intimidation and bullying and specifies procedures when harassment, intimidation or bullying are reported or observed. The Act requires a formal investigation at the school level if and when an incident, as defined by law, is observed or reported. Parents/guardians will be notified if their child is involved in an investigation, and they will be notified of the outcome. We are also required to report the outcome of each investigation to the Board of Education and to record any findings of harassment, intimidation or bullying in student discipline records.

NJSA: 18A:37-14 defines "Harassment, intimidation or bullying" as any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents, that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either 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, that takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or off school grounds as provided for in section 16 of P,L,201 0, c. 122 (C. 18A:37-15.3), that substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students and that:

- a. A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his person or damage to his property;
- b. has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students; or
- c. creates a hostile educational environment for the student by interfering with a student's education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the student. L.2002, c.83, s.2; amended 2007, c.129, s.1; 2010, c.122, s.11.



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Consequences: In addition to the procedures outlined in the Ridgewood Board of Education Policy regarding H.I.B., students who commit acts of H.I.B. will be subject to discipline which may include counseling, afterschool detention(s) and/or suspension.

\*Ridgewood Board of Education Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy 5512 may be found by selecting the Board Policy Manual link at <a href="https://www.ridgewood.k12.nj.us">www.ridgewood.k12.nj.us</a>.

#### Hazing or Initiation Activities

Guidelines: Hazing and inappropriate initiation activities are inconsistent with RHS' mission, core values and beliefs. As such, all forms of hazing and inappropriate initiation activities are prohibited.

RHS defines hazing and inappropriate initiation activity to be any act, whether physical, mental, emotional, or psychological, which subjects a student to any situation or expectation that may potentially abuse, mistreat, degrade, humiliate, harass, harm, intimidate a student, denigrate either an individual or another group, or compromise a student's inherent dignity as a person. The definition of hazing and inappropriate initiation activity includes such actions directed toward any student, whether or not the student may be joining or affiliating with a student organization. For example, the school considers hazing and inappropriate initiation activity to include a situation in which an older student subjects a younger student to rites of initiation. The fact that a student participates voluntarily in a hazing or inappropriate initiation activity does not alter the school's prohibition of such conduct.

RHS staff members do not believe students are made better by being humiliated or degraded. Our school realizes that school and team unity is developed in our classrooms, hallways, practice areas and athletic fields with a shared commitment to excellence.

Consequences: Upon receipt of either a complaint or report of hazing or inappropriate initiation activity, RHS shall conduct an investigation. Upon completion of the investigation, RHS shall take appropriate action. Such action will be designed to deter future violations and appropriately discipline students who have engaged in prohibited behavior. Disciplinary action may include consequences for individual student(s) and/or sanctions/suspensions being imposed upon a team, squad, or student organization. Such responsive actions shall be consistent with the requirements and expectations of the school's policies and regulations.

#### <u>Inappropriate Behavior</u>

Guidelines: Expressions of affection which become a display, whether due to their prolonged nature or degree of intimacy, are inappropriate. Such displays are not permitted in the school, on adjacent school property, or at school-sponsored events.



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Consequences: Staff members are directed to request students to stop this inappropriate behavior. Failure to cooperate, or repeated incidents, will cause referral to the Grade Advisor and short-term loss of open campus, or afterschool detention(s) may be assigned.

#### Inappropriate Language

Guidelines: Expressions that are obscene, offensive, degrading, or insulting will not be tolerated on school grounds and/or at school-related activities.

Consequences: Use of offensive language will result in referral to the student's Grade Advisor and may be assigned afterschool detention(s). Particular problems in this regard may lead to suspension. Offensive language directed at staff members will result in suspension.

### Insubordination/Failure to Identify Self

Guidelines: In order to maintain a safe and orderly environment, staff members must be able to identify students. If a staff member requests your name, you must give it. Giving your name is not an admission of guilt but it is necessary to maintain a safe and orderly environment.

Refusing to comply with a staff member's instructions or showing disrespect for a staff member. Uncooperative behavior, such as delayed compliance toward a staff member's instruction, is also considered insubordination. Given the nature and severity of the incident, the offense may result in detention or suspension.

Consequences: Failure to identify oneself at the request of a faculty member is considered a serious act of insubordination and will result in suspension.

#### Loitering

Guidelines: The RHS Community respects the neighborhood. Students may not congregate on private property surrounding our school campus (including sidewalks in front of houses).

Consequences: A violation of this will result in the Grade Advisor assigning afterschool detention(s).

### Open Campus

Guidelines: Open Campus is a privilege for all students. If parents/guardians do not want their child to have the open campus privilege they must contact their Grade Advisor, who will assign the student to a study hall where attendance will be taken. Students who violate the Code of Conduct or Period 9 obligations may also lose the open campus privilege and be assigned study hall and restricted lunch periods. The campus will be considered "closed" for these students.



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#### Consequences:

For the first offense: A student will be assigned a 3:15 P.M. detention and parents/guardians will be contacted by the Grade Advisor.

For a second offense: A student will be assigned two (2) 3:15 P.M. detentions. The student's parents/guardians will be contacted a second time and the Grade Advisor will impose a RESTRICTED LUNCH period, during which student must remain in one location for the entire Unit Lunch period.

#### Personal Audio/Visual Devices

Guidelines: Students may listen/view to personal audio/visual devices when they are not in classrooms. Larger personal audio devices are not permitted on school grounds.

Consequences: Violation of this guideline may result in the removal of the electronic device for the remainder of the day. Repeated offenses may result in afterschool detention(s).

#### Restricted Areas During Instructional Hours

While class is in session, students may not remain in the staff parking lot. Any area may become off limits if noise interferes with instruction. During the course of the school day, Heermance Place is regarded as part of the RHS Campus. As such, rules of behavior are similar to those for any other part of the school grounds.

While classes are in session, students are not to congregate in the hallways or areas of the building where classrooms are located. Under no circumstances are students to engage in behavior that is disturbing to the learning process going on in classrooms.

Students who are uncooperative or who are repeatedly disruptive will be referred to the Grade Advisor and will be subject to afternoon detention(s) and/or loss of Open Campus privileges.

#### **Security Doors**

Guidelines: Student and staff safety is a priority. All entrance doors to RHS will be locked during the school day. Students will be issued proximity cards which will allow students to enter at designated entrances. Students are responsible for their issued proximity card. If a student loses his or her card, he/she will be charged \$10.00 for a replacement card. Students are prohibited from tampering with any of the security doors, sharing proximity cards, propping doors open and/or opening doors for other students or persons. Any student that doesn't have his or her proximity card must enter through the main entrance on Ridgewood Avenue.



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Consequences: Any student who tampers with the security doors, shares his or her proximity card, props a door open, or opens doors for other students or persons will be referred to the Grade Advisor. Consequences may include and are not limited to afterschool detention(s) and/or suspension.

#### Suspension

In-School Suspension (ISS) is used for very serious infractions of school policies and procedures which do not require immediate removal from school. A student who is "suspended" from his/her regular schedule will be assigned to a self-contained classroom monitored by a staff member. Students given ISS will not receive a zero (0) in each class missed nor will they be prevented from completing tests or other work missed. All make-up work, however, is the responsibility of the suspended student. Students will be provided work by their classroom teacher to complete during the suspension period.

During the term of the suspension, a student may not participate in any school-sponsored activity or interscholastic or intramural sport or function. Students serving ISS will eat lunch in an area designated by the Grade Advisor.

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) is used for major infractions which are considered extremely serious breaches of the Code of Conduct and for continued misconduct. A parent/guardian conference with the appropriate Grade Advisor is mandatory before a student is readmitted to his/her regular classes.

#### Theft

Guidelines: Deliberately taking another's property constitutes theft, which is a criminal offense. This includes textbooks, library materials that are not signed out and/or cafeteria food that is not paid for. All students are urged to take proper care of their possessions. No student should leave bicycles or mopeds unsecured, lockers unlocked, carry large sums of money, or be otherwise careless with personal property. Students have an obligation to report any theft immediately to the office of the Grade Advisor. Students are encouraged to report information that may come to them regarding thefts. Gym lockers are provided for reasonable securing of clothing only, no items of value should be left in the gym lockers.

Consequences: Theft will be dealt with in a most serious fashion. Penalties will include suspension and police notification. Restitution will also be required.



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#### Threatening Behavior

Guidelines: All students are bound by law, policies of the Board of Education, and the administrative regulations of this school district. Students shall not create disorder or disruptions on school premises; use, threaten, or incite the use of physical force against other pupils or staff members, or visitors to the school.

Consequences: Any threatening behavior will be dealt with in the most serious manner. In addition to disciplinary action(s), any student who displays such behavior could be referred to the police and also medical professionals for an evaluation to determine whether or not the student poses a threat to self or others.

### Tobacco, Vaporizers and Tobacco-Like Products

Guidelines: RHS and the adjacent school property are also tobacco-free. This policy includes all forms of tobacco products including the smokeless kind, and *applies to all students regardless of age*. Because of the known health risks to users and those who may be subjected to the effects of others using tobacco, the penalties for violating this Policy are severe.

Consequences: Possession of tobacco products and tobacco-like products on school grounds and/or use of tobacco or tobacco-like products in line of sight of the school property will result in afterschool detention(s) and repeated offenses will result in suspension. Use of tobacco products and tobacco-like products on school grounds will result in a minimum of three (3) days suspension. A parent must accompany the student to a re-admit conference. The student will be required to schedule a meeting with the Crisis Counselor.

#### Unsafe Behavior

Guidelines: A school must maintain a safe learning environment in order for students to grow and learn socially, emotionally and academically. In addition to common sense, a number of classes have specific safety rules and procedures that are in place to assure student and staff safety.

Consequences: Any student that acts in an unsafe manner will be referred to his or her Grade Advisor and may receive detention or suspension.

<u>Use of High School Computers and Chromebooks (copied from Student Handbook)</u> Guidelines: Use of RHS computers and the network is a privilege, not an entitlement. The network, software and hardware are the property of Ridgewood Public Schools. Students must be familiar with the <u>Acceptable Use Policy (Ridgewood B.O.E. R2361)</u> and also the <u>School District Provided Technology Devises to Pupils Policy</u> (Ridgewood B.O.E. R7523.) Files stored on the RHS network are regularly inspected by authorized staff to ensure compliance with the <u>Acceptable Use Policy</u> and laws governing software. Students SHOULD NOT HAVE AN EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY for files and information stored on the RHS network.



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Consequences: Students who abuse their network privileges will have their account closed and the use of RHS computers denied with additional penalties if the administration deems them appropriate.

#### Vandalism

Guidelines: The community of Ridgewood has justifiable pride in its educational institutions. Vandalism, the willful or malicious destruction or defacement of school property, detracts from that environment.

Consequences: Any act of vandalism, including writing on desks or walls, will result in after school detention(s) and become part of a student's disciplinary record. Serious or habitual acts of vandalism will result in suspension and possible prosecution under the law. Students and/or parents/guardians will be held responsible for the costs involved in repairing any act of vandalism.

#### Weapons and Other Prohibited Items

Guidelines: A school must maintain a safe learning environment in order for students to grow and learn socially, emotionally and academically. Possession, use, sale, intent to sell, or distribution of any type of weapon (knives, incendiary devices [i.e. fireworks or smoke bombs], etc.) is prohibited in school buildings, on school grounds, on school buses and during school-sponsored activities. It is forbidden to bring knives, weapons, controlled dangerous substances (such as tobacco, illegal drugs, and alcohol), and incendiary devices (such as firecrackers and smoke bombs) to school. School authorities are required to report to the police department any incident involving these items.

Consequences: Possession, use, sale, intent to sell, or distribution of any type of weapon will be dealt with in a most serious fashion. Penalties will include suspension of ten (10) days and police notification.

Other Ridgewood Board of Education Policies and Regulations related to student conduct (2361, R 2361, 5240, R 5240, 5500, R 5500, 5511, 5513, R 5513, 5514, 5516, 5520, 5530, R 5530, 5533, 5535, 5560, R 5560, 5570, R 5570, 5600, R 5600, 5610, R 5610, 5611, R 5611, 5612, 5615, 5620, 5700, 5701, 5710, 5721, R 5721, 5751, R 5751, 5841, 5850, R 5850, 5851, R 5851) These may be found at the link <a href="https://www.ridgewood.k12.nj.us">www.ridgewood.k12.nj.us</a>

