

Rainier School District #13

Student/Family Handbook



2021-22 School Year

Code of Conduct

We expect all students to **be safe, responsible, respectful, and kind at all times.**

The District has authority and control over a student at school during the regular school day, at any school related activity, regardless of time or location and while being transported in district provided transportation.

Students will be subject to discipline up to and including detention, suspension, expulsion, denial and/or loss of awards and privileges and/or referral to law enforcement officials depending on infraction and grade level.

Harassment/Bullying/Cyber Bullying/Horseplay

Harassment of any kind is not permitted. Students must not engage in unwanted or unwelcome verbal or physical conduct of sexual/harassment nature directed at another student or district employee. All students are expected to treat others with courtesy and respect; to avoid any behavior known to be offensive; and stop these behaviors when asked or told to stop. This prohibition applies whether conduct is by word, gesture, or sexual conduct including request for sexual favors. A substantiated complaint against a student will result in appropriate disciplinary action up to and including suspension (maximum of 10 days) and expulsion (maximum of 1 year).

Students are asked to be kind and respectful to each other. The following behaviors will not be tolerated, as it is not acceptable to:

- Call names
- Push, poke, trip or hit others
- Stare, glare or give mean looks with intent to intimidate or provoke
- Make a threatening gesture or statement
- Take or destroy someone's property
- Spread rumors or lies
- Lie to an adult with the intent to get someone else in trouble
- Use profanity or inappropriate language
- Make unkind remarks about someone, their friends or family
- Call someone fat, short, or other things with the intent to hurt feelings
- Refer to homosexuality, sexual behavior, race, or religion in a mean or put-down way
- Use electronic devices including texting/messaging to harass or disrupt the learning environment
- Snow Balls - The throwing of snowballs on school grounds is not permitted and will be subject to disciplinary action.

Students who believe they are being harassed/bullied or made to feel uncomfortable are encouraged to:

- Tell them to stop and walk away
- If it happens again, let school staff know.

Any time a student is made to feel uncomfortable, they are asked to let an adult know immediately. Staff are to report this to an administrator. Students who choose to harass others may be subject to disciplinary action.

Violent Language

Statements or threats to kill someone, bringing a weapon, bomb, or fireworks to school, or any violent act, will be taken seriously. Making comments of this nature will usually result in suspension until an investigation by the school and police proves that no real threat exists. Students who make a threat may be required to see a therapist outside of the school system, at the student's parent's expense, before you can return to school. Students who know of a student who speaks of violence, makes threats, or seems intent on hurting someone or themselves, are encouraged to let a responsible adult know immediately.

Gangs

The presence of gangs and the violent activities and drug abuse that often accompany gang involvement, can cause a substantial disruption of school, district activities and a student's ability to meet curriculum and attendance requirements. A gang is defined as any group that identifies itself through the use of a name, unique appearance or language, including hand signs, the claiming of geographical territory or the espousing of a distinctive belief system that frequently results in criminal activity. Students in violation of the District's gang policy will be subject to discipline in accordance with the district's Student Code of Conduct.

Restitution

Damaging someone else's property will result in restitution. This means payment for damaged or ruined property. This includes school property as well and fines follow the student until payment is made.

Fighting

Students are not allowed to fight, encourage others to fight, or physically intervene during a fight. Students who see a fight about to start are encouraged to do the right thing by notifying an adult immediately. There are no good reasons for fighting and there are consequences. Students who feel they are getting picked on and their only option is to fight are encouraged to refrain from doing so. Students are required to remove themselves from the situation and notify school staff immediately. Rainier School District policy does not allow fighting. Recording a fight with an electronic device (cell phones etc..) is not permitted and students who attempt to record such an act will also face disciplinary action.

Dress Code

Students' dress shall be modest, neat, clean and in keeping with health, sanitary, and safety practices. To clearly establish this climate, the following are not acceptable at school or school-sponsored activities:

- Any clothing, jewelry or item which references gang symbols, nicknames, weapons, signs/symbols of drugs or alcohol, profanity, or swastikas.
- Any clothing or item that is a put down to self and/or others, including racial put downs, sexually demeaning pictures, words, numbers, or sexual innuendos.
- Clothing which compromises modesty. Immodest clothing such as halter tops, tube tops, muscle shirts, backless tops/dresses or see through attire. Clothing that exposes inappropriate areas including undergarments, and midriffs shall not be worn at school.
- Shorts and skirts that do not cover the mid-thigh area
- Chains. These include security and dog chains, including any form of spiked and/or studded accessories.
- Pants that sag below the hips.

Additional Guidance:

Items of clothing must be worn in their intended manner (pants at the waist, bib straps over the shoulder, etc.). Items should be appropriately sized (belts, pants, chains).

- Shoes must be worn.
- Tank Tops: Two Finger Width or Wider
- Skirts/Dresses: Fingertip Length or Longer
- Shorts: Three-inch inseams or longer
- Masks/Neck Gaiters are for health and safety and must be worn in accordance with state and the Oregon Health Authority guidelines.
- Wallet with Chain: Must be lightweight and not exceed 12 inches.
- The following are not appropriate for the school setting:
 - Swimwear.
 - underwear showing.
 - extremes in sizing (short shorts, short skirts, etc.).
 - Bare midriff.
 - Spaghetti straps.
 - Strapless or low-cut attire.

Additional Dress Considerations:

Dress and grooming must not disrupt the teaching/learning process. The dress and grooming policy is subject to continual Board review and may be revised during the school year.

Clothing, Jewelry, Body Art, Belt Buckles, and School Supplies may NOT depict:

- Profane or obscene language or gestures.
- Drugs (including marijuana leaves and mushrooms), alcohol, or tobacco.
- Sex: people dressed in lingerie or beachwear that is overly revealing: words, sayings, or characters, which are exploitive or are demeaning of males or females.
- Racial or religious put-downs.
- Violence.

Skateboards/Roller blades/Scooters/Bikes

Hoverboards, Skateboards, Roller blades, scooters and bikes are NOT permitted on Rainier school grounds at any time. These items will be confiscated and returned only to parents

Confiscation

Items that are not allowed at school, such as laser pointers, gang symbols, violent pictures or inappropriate pictures will be taken away and not returned.

Theft

Students are encouraged to be careful with their things. The school takes no responsibility or liability for lost, stolen or damaged property. Marking all property with a permanent marker helps students refrain from losing their belongings including backpacks, clothes, shoes, personal calculators, and sports equipment. Many students leave their bags and binders unattended in the hall and at after school events which can lead to vandalism and theft. All students are encouraged to lock up their belongings in their locker or other safe area. Students who are found to have another student's property in their possession will be disciplined and all serious thefts will be reported to the police. Taking another student's schoolwork and turning it in as one's own is also considered theft. Damaging someone else's property

will result in restitution. This means payment for damaged or ruined property. This also includes the school's property as well, like desks, books, walls, chairs, and athletic equipment. Fines also follow the student until payment is made.

Electronic Devices

Phones, pagers, iPods, MP3 players, radios, game systems, speakers, etc. can create a substantial disruption to the education process and are only allowed during non-classroom time for JRSR High School Students (HPE students can only use devices before and after school, at all other times they must be "Off and away"). In the event a student is caught using a cell phone, the phone will be confiscated and turned into the office to be picked up by the student at the end of the day on the first offense. On the second and subsequent offenses, a parent/guardian will be required to pick up the phone. In addition to being disruptive, these items pose an extreme theft problem. The school strongly encourages these items be left at home as the school district is not responsible for their loss or damage. Students refusing to give up their cell phone or electronic device will be disciplined for defiance and insubordination. Students may receive a detention, an in-school suspension or an out of school suspension. Teachers that use the cell phone for an in-class assignment will clearly communicate when it is appropriate to use and when it is no longer appropriate. The school recommends these items should be left at home as the school district is not responsible for their loss.

Public Displays of Affection

Demonstration of affection between students is limited to hand holding or a brief casual hug at school, on the school grounds, or at school functions held on or off school grounds.

Distribution of Materials

All aspects of school-sponsored publications, including web pages, newspapers and/or yearbooks, are completely under the supervision of the teacher and principal. Students may be required to submit such publications to the administration for approval. Written materials, handbills, photographs, pictures, petitions, films, tapes or other visual or auditory materials may not be sold, circulated or distributed on district property by a student or a non-student without the approval of the administration.

District Property Issued to Students/Fines

Students are responsible for all items issued by the District, such as textbooks, instructional materials, musical instruments, library materials, technology materials and sports equipment (uniforms, helmets, etc.). Payment is required if items are lost or damaged. Simply returning items does not constitute clearance. Returned items must be the actual items issued. Fines must be paid by students to the office for loss of or damage to school property. These charges can be cleared at any time; however, failure to pay fines will result in the withholding of the student's report card or the diploma being held at the time of graduation. The assigning staff member must clear bills for returned items.

Assemblies/Activities

Assemblies are to be an educational experience like classes, and students are required to attend. Students attending an assembly are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly manner.

Acceptable conduct in assemblies includes being seated promptly and quietly, showing attention and courtesy to those speaking or performing, applauding at the appropriate time, not booing or putting feet on chairs, etc.

All students are expected to conduct themselves according to acceptable standards as representatives of the Rainier School District at all school sponsored activities, including all off-campus activities.

Good Behavior at assemblies is very important for safety and courtesy.

Please follow these rules:

- Sit where you are told, and be seated quickly
- Remain seated until staff dismiss you
- Follow the directions of all school adults
- Do not talk during the assembly
- When entering or leaving the gym, do not walk across the gym floor

Consequences for Negative Behavior

The following problem areas have been identified as those requiring behavioral intervention. In each of the instances below a parent contact will be mandatory. Other behaviors not outlined below which may be deemed unhealthy, unsafe, or disruptive to the point where learning stops may still receive logical consequences; this list is not exhaustive.

Behavioral infractions are handled on a case-by-case basis, because every situation requires a student-first perspective. When issuing consequences staff and administrators will consider a variety of factors including (but not limited to) history of behaviors, student situation, interference with educational program, standards of conduct, etc. Negative behaviors will be addressed immediately in class with warnings, reteaching, restrictions, removal, referral, parent contact, etc. When the behavior has not been improved from in-class interventions, an office referral can be submitted to a building administrator. The building administrator will consider all previous interventions and factors and consequences will be determined at a building level. Consequences could mimic classroom consequences but can also include (when available) temporary removal, in-school suspension, suspension, detention, Saturday school, alternate programming, and expulsion.

Problem Area	Definition	Disciplinary Action (May include)
Inappropriate behavior while attending school assemblies and activity events	Behavior reviewed by school administration	Warning, attendance restriction or suspension
Forgery	Intentional falsification of materials related to attendance. Falsifications of school assignments/tests (cheating), attempting to change a bus ride with a false written request, etc.	Possible suspension
Possession of tobacco or associated items	Students in possession of tobacco in any form and/or associated items (vapes, pipes, paper, etc.)	Confiscation of items, suspension, juvenile referral, and potential expulsion referral

Tobacco use	The use of tobacco in any form on district property, or out-of-district school functions	Confiscation of items, suspension, juvenile referral, and potential expulsion referral
Indecent exposure	Purposely displaying personal anatomical parts of the body in public	Possible suspension
Public display of affection	Displays of affection beyond holding hands	1 st offense: warning and phone call home Subsequent offenses: Possible suspension
*Disorderly conduct	Language, dress, or behavior that may be disruptive to the normal school day, may cause harm or embarrassment to others or that is not in good taste to the general public	1 st offense: May be suspension and/or expulsion. May be referred to the police.
Problem Area	Definition	Disciplinary
Unauthorized use of school equipment	Use of copy machine, shop equipment, staff computers, etc. for personal use without proper clearance	Possible suspension and/or restitution
*Obscene materials	Creation, possession, or sale of obscene writings, drawing, etc. (such as material placed on hats, shirts, etc.) is not permitted	Possible suspension and may be referred to police
*Threat, hazing, bullying, harassment of any kind (i.e., sexual or cyber harassment)	Statements or actions which intimidates another person	Possible suspension and may be referred to police
*Unauthorized alarm use	Setting off the fire alarm	Suspension and may be referred to police
Defiance of authority, Insubordination	Refusal to follow the reasonable requests of school personnel	Possible suspension
Cheating/Plagiarism	Using information from a source outside the guidelines set by the classroom teacher on an activity for credit	Possible suspension
*Vandalism (including graffiti)	Intentional damage or destruction of objects, materials, or property belonging to the school personnel, or other persons	Possible suspension and referral to authorities
*Theft	Taking, giving, receiving property without permission	Possible suspension and referral to authorities
Use of cell phones/electronic devices	Any use of a cell phone/electronic device during class time.	First offense: student loses the cell phones/electronic device to the administration and can pick it up at the end of the day. Second and

		subsequent offenses: a parent/guardian must come to the school to pick up the device
*Assault	Physical attack by a person or group of persons upon another student	Possible suspension and referral to authorities
*Extortion	Demanding money or something of value from another person in return for a favor, i.e. protection	Suspension and/or expulsion and referral authorities
*Weapons possession		Expulsion referral. Will be referred to police
<p>A “weapon” is defined as any object which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any firearm muffler or firearm silencer or destructive device. “Destructive device” means any explosive, incendiary or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket or missile.</p> <p>Weapons shall include, but not be limited to, firearms, knives, metal knuckles, straight razors, explosives, noxious, irritating or poisonous gases, poisons, drugs or other items fashioned with the intent to use, sell, harm, threaten or harass students, staff members, parents and patrons.</p> <p>A “dangerous weapon” means any weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, which under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used or threatened to be used, is readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury.</p> <p>Weapons in the Schools: Board Policy JFCJ</p> <p>Weapons and replicas (facsimile) of weapons are forbidden on school property, except for those in possession of the law enforcement officers.</p>		
Look-alike items (weapons)		The possession of any item(s) that is represented to look like a weapon is a violation. Individuals found with cap guns, starting pistols, rubber knives, squirt guns, etc. may be suspended. Students using such items while threatening, intimidating, or harassing others may be referred to the district hearing officer with an expulsion request.
*Distribution or abuse of a controlled substance or alcohol (including MIP by consumption), drug paraphernalia, prescription/ nonprescription medication not belonging to student,	The distribution or abuse of alcohol or any controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, prescription/ nonprescription medication not belonging to student	Suspension and/or expulsion and referral authorities
*Possession, use, or intent to abuse a controlled substance or alcohol (including MIP by consumption), drug paraphernalia, prescription/nonprescription medication	The use, possession or under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, prescription/nonprescription medication not belonging to student	Suspension and/or expulsion and referral authorities

not belonging to student		
Look-alike items (substance)	The possession of any item(s) that is arranged/packaged to look like pills, tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, etc. is a violation. Individuals found with the bagged grass/leaves, pills without prescription, “fake” chew, etc. may be placed under suspension.	
*Arson	Use of fire to destroy/damage or attempt to destroy/damage property	Suspension and/or expulsion and referral authorities
*Assault on a staff member	Physical attack by a person or group of persons upon a staff member	Suspension and/or expulsion and referral authorities
*Violence	<p>Violent behavior in any form, including language and physical actions, is not accepted on campus or during school functions.</p> <p><u>Name-calling</u>: name calling or teasing of individuals will be taken seriously with appropriate consequences taken up to suspension. Students are expected to treat others with respect.</p> <p><u>Physical actions</u>: pushing, wrestling, horseplay etc. – possible out-of-school suspension.</p> <p><u>Fighting</u>: Aggressive physical actions between two or more participants using actions that are intended to cause physical harm – out-of-school suspension, to include a conference with the parent/guardian before reinstatement.</p> <p>The invitation to fight, promotion to fight, or discussion to encourage fighting may result in a suspension referral.</p> <p>Students with a history of continued violent behavior, which may include any of the above, will be referred to the District Hearings Officer with an expulsion request.</p>	
*School officials have the option to notify police authorities, and in cases of major violations, may press charges. If the police authorities are notified, legal guardians will be contacted. Any action taken by police authorities will be in addition to actions by the school. School officials, guided by District procedures, will cooperate with police authorities during investigations. School officials may confiscate items. Reclamation of these items, at the end of the school year, is resolved on a case-by-case basis.		
Suspension is the temporary removal of a student from all school building(s)/property and from participation and/or attendance in or at school activities or district-sponsored events and/or activities, including athletics and access to school transportation, for not more than ten school days. A student, parent, or other person in a parental relationship shall have two school days from the school administration’s decision to suspend, in which to appeal the decision to the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee will review the written record and/or may conduct an informal hearing, and render a written decision within three school days from the notice of the appeal. A student, parent, or other person in parental relationship shall have the right to appeal the Superintendent or designee’s decision to the Board within two school days from the receipt of said decision.		

Student Grievance

Purpose: To provide opportunity for a parent or student to express personal grievance(s) against a school district rule or procedure. Issues may include curriculum, instruction, school or classroom policies or procedures, school activities, or perceived discrimination involving equal educational opportunity. Any student may work through the following procedure:

1. Request a conference with the advisor/teacher or counselor. If in the area of athletics, first contact will be the coach.
2. Request a conference with the athletic director.
3. Request a conference with the principal (designee).
4. Request a hearing with the superintendent.
5. Request a hearing with the Rainier School District School Board of Directors.

SUSPENSION (BOARD POLICY JGD)

At times, it may become necessary to place a student on suspension. During a suspension the student is placed in a restricted in-school environment or referred out of school. **While under out-of-school suspension, the student is denied attendance on district property for any reason and restricted from all school functions.** (Failure to comply with all stipulations will result in an additional day added to the terms of the suspension.) Students placed on an in-school suspension are denied participation in any school activities.

Suspensions that result from student behavior that took place in non-academic situations, i.e., student functions, hallways, cafeteria, school grounds, etc. will be given the opportunity to complete class assignments.

The third suspension within a current school year or the second major suspension in a three-year period, (ORS 339.250 subsection #6) is cause for an expulsion request referred to the superintendent.

The following are listed as serious rule violations and may be cause for major suspensions or expulsion:

Indecent Exposure	Vandalism
Theft	Forgery #2
Fighting (major)	Assault
Weapons Possession	Arson
Assault on a Staff Member	

Controlled substance or alcohol possession or use, or drug paraphernalia possession will result in a suspension and expulsion request.

Please reference board policy for more information on student suspension or expulsion.

Provision for Students Served on IEP's and 504's

Students served on an IEP or 504 are subject to the same rules and disciplinary procedures. Certain provisions may be provided through the IEP process and are listed in the Parental Rights for Special Education–Notice of Procedural Safeguards brochure. This brochure is offered to all families who have students on IEPs at least annually. Copies are available from the building special education teacher.

Right of Due Process

All students are entitled to due process. This means no action will be taken against a student until the facts have been presented and a judgment has been made. There are certain procedures, which school officials must follow prior to taking appropriate disciplinary action. There are also procedures, which students must follow if they do not agree with the school's actions.

When a disciplinary action results in suspension or expulsion, due process of law involves three procedures.

1. Prior notification – The student and/or legal guardian is informed of school policies and procedures regarding disciplinary consequences. Prior notification includes but is not limited to education of the handbook, both formal instruction and self-discovery.
2. Specification of charges – The student and/or legal guardian is made aware of the misconduct for which the student is being accused.
3. Opportunity to respond – The student and/or legal guardian is allowed to present his/her view of the accusations and of the disciplinary action to be taken within a reasonable time frame.

Searches

District officials may search the student, his/her personal property and property assigned by the district for the student's use at any time on district property or when the student is under the jurisdiction of the school. Such searches will be conducted only when there is reasonable suspicion to believe evidence of a violation of a law, Board policy, administration regulation or school rule or the Student Code of Conduct is present in a particular place.

District officials may also search when they have reasonable information that emergency/dangerous circumstances exist. District-owned storage areas assigned for student use, such as lockers and desks, may be routinely inspected at any time. District Officials may, at their discretion, use drug-detecting canines.

Student Interviews from Outside Authorities

Special governmental agencies have the legal authority to come to school and interview our students during the school day. These agencies, most often either the police or Services to Children and Families, control this interview process. They may interview the student without school district employees present, and they may interview the student without first contacting the parents. At the school, our responsibility is to ask the representative if they are going to contact the parent, or if they wish us to contact the parent. In either instance, we will follow their direction.

Should law enforcement officials find it necessary to question students during the school day or during periods of extra-curricular activities, the principal or designee will be present, when possible. An effort will be made to notify the parent of the situation.