

## Rivendell Interstate School District Comprehensive Plan for Student Misbehavior 6/2024

Rivendell Interstate School District discipline is guided by District Policy, district procedures, school handbooks and Vermont statute. This comprehensive plan for misbehavior is grounded in sound practice to keep students and community members safe in school and at all school sponsored events. The Comprehensive Plan is the sum of all the parts listed below.

### Philosophy

The philosophy of Rivendell Interstate School district is to plan and promote positive development of youth and growth through learning from mistakes. The following principles guide decision making.

- If a need for classroom management exceeds a normal classroom environment, the district will consider alternative settings both inside and outside the schoolhouse on a temporary or longer basis.
- The district provides information and training to students through school counselors, advisory, classroom meetings and/or other embedded and pull-out situations to address conflict resolution, peer mediation, and anger management. The amount and duration of this education depends on individual, group and school circumstances.
- Parents are informed of the school handbooks and policies at the end of summer or beginning of the year communication. This includes the sharing of student handbooks. In addition this information is posted on websites. When student misconduct is repeated and/or rises to a level of impacting learning, parents will be notified via phone, email or written US postal mail. In all cases the school administration and teachers will work with the perspective of improving student behavior, teachable moments, natural consequences and a positive perspective on change.
- All greater threats to the school such as weapons, crisis situations, bomb scares, false alarms will be taken seriously, and the Vermont School Crisis guide shall be followed.
- All volunteers, contractors and individuals who come into extended independent contact shall receive periodic training on the maintenance of a safe, orderly, civil, and positive learning environment. The training shall be appropriate to the role of the staff member being trained and shall teach classroom and behavior management, enforcement of the school's discipline policies, and positive youth development models.
- A description of behaviors on and off school grounds that constitute misconduct, including harassment, bullying, and hazing, particularly those behaviors that may be grounds for suspension and expulsion are outlined in both the student handbook and the District policies.
- Standard due process procedures for suspension and expulsion are part of school discipline. Students will be afforded due process in accordance with Vermont statute and the individual student handbooks.
  - In cases of school exclusion (suspension and removal from school), students and parents shall have a hearing.
  - Students, parents or guardians may appeal decisions made at the building level by a principal or designee. The appeal will be heard by the Superintendent in a formal appeals hearing. Students, parents or guardians may appeal decisions made at the superintendent level to the school board. A formal appeals hearing will occur. The school board decision is final

- No employees, contractors or volunteers shall inflict or cause corporal punishment to be inflicted upon a student attending Rivendell Interstate School District or any Rivendell Interstate School District sponsored activities. However, this does not prohibit a person from using reasonable and necessary force: to quell a disturbance; to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects upon the person of or within the control of a student; or for the purpose of self defense

Below please find links related to student behavior. Please note that not all policies are listed, as these are the most common ones related to student behavior.

#### Policy Links regarding student discipline

- Tobacco prohibition  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/nh/rivendell/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CUQ4LS0C1F9F>
- Electronic communication  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/nh/rivendell/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CUQ4PP0C8C43>
- Student Alcohol and Drugs  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/nh/rivendell/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CUQ4PP0C8C43>
- Weapons/Firearms  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/nh/rivendell/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CUQ4PP0C8C43>
- Student Attendance  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/nh/rivendell/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CUQ4PP0C8C43>
- Prevention of Hazing, Harassment, Bullying  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/nh/rivendell/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CUQ4PP0C8C43>
- Prevention of Hazing, Harassment and Bullying procedures  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/nh/rivendell/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CUQ4PP0C8C43>
- Student Freedom of Expression  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/nh/rivendell/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CUQ4PP0C8C43>
- Prevention of Sexual Harassment, Title IX  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/nh/rivendell/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CUQ4PP0C8C43>

Each school in the Rivendell Interstate School District shall develop and utilize a Student Handbook which includes

- Operational information
- General philosophy and actions regarding supporting students and student behavior
- Specific details and behavior matrices regarding student misbehavior.

The school district shall establish and maintain the school district policy in accordance with Vermont statutes regarding students' discipline

#### Handbook Links regarding student discipline

- Rivendell Academy  
<https://content.myconnectsuite.com/api/documents/94f821ba84f5443a818d8cb19ee0105d.pdf>
- Elementary Schools  
<https://content.myconnectsuite.com/api/documents/6b367ab132bb44f0826fe40953214d54>

