

RUTLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code of Conduct applies to any student who is on school property, who is in attendance at school or at any school- sponsored activity. It also applies to any student whose conduct at any time or place, including to and from school, and/ or online behavior, has an impact on the safe, caring, or orderly environment of the school and/or student learning.

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

Rutland Middle School promotes the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law. No person shall discriminate against another based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, physical and mental disability, sex or sexual orientation within the school environment or through the school system and its related function through publication, or in accommodation, service or facility. The school will treat seriously any behavior that contravenes the grounds set out in the BC Human Rights Code.

At RMS, we value and agree to conduct ourselves in a manner consistent with the principles of respect, rights, and responsibility in creating a safe, caring and orderly school:

We will display RESPECT for the rights, property and safety of ourselves and others, by...

Honouring the RIGHTS of others through the process of learning and demonstrating appropriate behaviours, and by...

Assuming RESPONSIBILITY for our own behavior in order to sustain a safe and productive learning environment.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

In the event of a violation of our Code of Conduct, the staff will endeavour to act consistently by:

communicating with all individuals involved;

determining all of the facts; and

treating students with fairness and respect.

The staff recognizes that each incident must be dealt with on an individual basis, dependent upon severity, circumstance and history. Every effort will be made to suit the consequence to the student and the situation through the use of a progressive disciplinary model. Whenever possible, the student, with the assistance of the administrator, teacher, behaviour intervention teacher, counselor, and/or parent/guardian, will be involved in solving the problem.

OFFENCES AND POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES

Most members of our school community conduct themselves in a positive and responsible manner. From time to time, violations of the code of conduct will occur, and when these infrequent violations occur, parents/guardians could be contacted. Minor violations of the Code of Conduct are dealt with in a variety of ways, including collaborative problem solving, meetings with students, staff and parents, detentions, school

service and other consequences that are intended to be restorative in nature, and lead to the development of pro-social behaviours.

More serious violations of the Code of Conduct (detailed below) may lead to a definite/indefinite in/out of school suspension, a Restorative Justice referral and/or RCMP involvement. Offences and possible consequences are detailed below:

MAJOR OFFENCES

- Repeated minor behaviours
- Willful disobedience
- Power struggle with an adult
- Inappropriate touching or language
- Leaving campus without permission
- Tampering with property of others
- Pain or injury to another person (teasing, tripping, intimidation, pushing, swearing or kicking)
- Lying
- Bullying behaviours

POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES

- Collaborative problem-solving meeting with staff, student, parents
- School/community service
- Behavioural contracts
- Behavioural assignments
- Disciplinary work station - detention
- In-school/out-of-school suspension

SERIOUS OFFENCES

Repeated major offenses
Truancy
Use/possession of weapons
Defiance
Uttering threats
Smoking

Sexual harassment

Vandalism

Assault

Fighting

Theft

Use/possession of alcohol or drugs

POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES

- In-school/out-of-school definite suspension
- Indefinite suspension
- Legal intervention (RCMP, Restorative Justice)

APPEAL POLICY 460

Parents and guardians of a student who is entitled to an educational program in SD 23 may appeal the decision of an employee of the school board which significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student.

STEP 1: Parent meets with employee (eg. teacher)

STEP 2: Parent meets with principal

STEP 3: Parent meets with the superintendent or designate (eg. director)

If at this point, the issue remains unsolved and the parent is not satisfied, the parent has a right to a final appeal to the Board. Details of this process are available at the school.

This district policy is in place to help ensure that effective communication is part of the problem-solving process.

CLOSED CAMPUS

All middle schools in SD23 are closed campuses. Once students have arrived at RMS they are expected to remain on campus for the remainder of the day. Students are not permitted to go to the corner store or surrounding restaurants under any circumstance. Students who go home for lunch are required to have a signed parent/guardian permission form on file at the office each year.

SCHOOL VISITORS

All visitors to the school must report to the office and state their reason for visiting the school. Visitors should not be in the halls without express permission from the office/administration for safety reasons. Students are asked to make arrangements to meet their friends who do not attend RMS off the school property after school hours; students from other schools are not permitted to be on RMS property, just as RMS students are not to be on other school properties. We do not allow for friends of students to "visit for the day" and attend classes with students. This practice can be very disruptive to learning environments and can become a serious supervision issue.

SOCIAL BEHAVIOURS

It is not appropriate for middle school students to display overt behaviours of a romantic or sexual nature at school.

RMS DRESS CODE

The way we dress can communicate the respect we show to others and to the school as a place for working and learning. The purpose of the RMS dress code is to determine what clothing is reasonable for

students and staff to provide a positive school climate. Students are asked to avoid dress styles which promote, imitate or celebrate violence, intimidation, racism, sexism, hatred towards others, gang association, sex or alcohol/drug use.

Students may be asked to change if their clothing is determined to be inappropriate for school. This expectation applies to both our male students and female students.

All hats need to be removed when in the school building. Footwear must be worn at all times for health and safety reasons.

RMS is not a beach. Therefore students are asked to cover their undergarments and their four "B's" (backs, bellies, butts and breasts).

PERSONAL PROPERTY/STUDENT LOCKERS

At the beginning of the year, each student will be assigned a school lock and locker. Personal locks are not to be used. Student locks and lockers remain the property of the school and the school retains access to the lockers throughout the year. They may be opened and searched when the school administration deems it necessary. A replacement fee of \$5.00 will be charged to students who have lost their locks. In order to ensure students' belongings are safe, lock combinations and lockers must not be shared.

Students should not bring unnecessary items, valuables, or large amounts of money to school. The school cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items.

Students are urged to safeguard their valuables by keeping them on their

person or turning them in to the office for safekeeping. Items of value should never be left unlocked in the gym change rooms.

SKATEBOARDING/SCOOTERING

The use of skateboards and scooters is permitted on RMS property only in the designated area (out behind the auditorium by the outdoor exercise equipment) while wearing proper headwear. Students are not to be on their skateboards or scooters otherwise; continued issues that arise because of improper use may result in a student being asked to not bring his/her skateboard or scooter to school permanently. Students are required to have a signed parent/guardian permission form on file at the office each year to skateboard or scooter on the property.

Student skateboards and scooters will be stored in our lockable sea-can bin, and nowhere else in the school (not in lockers, not in classrooms, not anywhere else, not carried around in hallways). These places not necessarily secure, and we know that these items are costly for families - as stated in the previous section on personal property, the school cannot be responsible for lost, misplaced, or stolen skateboards or scooters stored in various unsecured areas around the school. We have a lockable, weatherproof bin, where school staff sign in and sign out student skateboards and scooters each day to students. During the lunch break, if students do not have protective headwear, skateboards and scooters will not be signed out for use on school property.

TECHNOLOGY

The School District has a 'Bring Your Own Device' policy, as well as providing wifi access for students to use while at school. Students are encouraged to bring personal electronic devices/cell phones for use in classes, during class time, for educational purposes, with the express consent of their teachers. Outside of class time (ie. before or after school, or during breaks), or in the event that classroom teachers ask that students not have devices, student electronic devices/cell phones will be expected to be turned off, and stored securely in student lockers. As stated in previous sections, the school cannot be responsible for lost, misplaced, or stolen electronic devices/cell phones; students need to store them securely in lockers, and never leave them unattended.

We know that adolescents have great difficulty in managing their "screen time"; students need to interact, get exercise, and play with one another, rather than play online games by themselves on school Wi-Fi networks at every given opportunity.

Students are expected to use their technology appropriately at all times while at school (ie. they do not break the RMS code of conduct with their devices).

We understand that as a parent/guardian you may have provided your child a cell phone to stay in contact. As in elementary school, if you need to contact your child in the event of an emergency during the school day, please phone the main office (250-765-2988) and we will get you in touch as soon as possible.

RESPONSIBLE STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY DEVICES, SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY, AND DISTRICT NETWORKS

The purpose of using network services and digital technologies while in educational settings is to engage in responsible educational activities. Therefore, the use of personal technology devices, school technologies, and district network services requires students to abide by the school's Code of Conduct and procedures, as well as Central Okanagan Public Schools Policy 486: Student Use of Network Services and Digital Technologies.

Some examples of responsible use with district and personal devices include the following:

- Act responsibly when accessing technology and district networks, including the Internet in their school.
- Use technology equipment and property according to all applicable rules and with care and respect.
- Engage in appropriate use as directed by school staff.
- Respect the safety and privacy of self and others and do not provide personal contact information about themselves or other students.
- Treat others with respect and kindness when using digital devices and network services.
- Respect resource limits of the network services and do not engage in activities that jeopardize the integrity, security or performance of the network.

- Understand the importance of privacy and security and take all reasonable precautions when accessing network services and digital technologies.

The use of Personal Technology Devices, School Technology, and District Networks is a privilege and usage may be revoked at any time for inappropriate conduct. Schools will not be held responsible for any misplaced, lost, stolen, or broken items brought to school by students. Use of network services and digital technologies which violate the terms outlined in policy and/or the School's Code of Conduct may result in serious consequences including definite or indefinite suspensions and/or police intervention.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

At RMS students are encouraged to become involved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Our staff volunteer their time to sponsor these activities and appreciate any parent /guardian support and assistance. Please encourage your child to **GET INVOLVED!** Research is clear that students who actively participate in extra-curricular opportunities are more socially and academically engaged in school.

Activities include (but are not limited to):

- ❑ Field Hockey
- ❑ Cross Country Running
- ❑ Volleyball
- ❑ WEB Leadership
- ❑ Rugby
- ❑ Basketball
- ❑ Badminton
- ❑ Track & Field
- ❑ Golf
- ❑ Social Justice Club
- ❑ Drama Productions
- ❑ Intramurals



RMS ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Before participating in a school sport, RMS students & parents are to agree to the RMS Athletic Code of Conduct.

I realize that it is a privilege to participate in athletic activities at Rutland Middle School. Accordingly, I hereby agree to obey the following regulations and training rules as set by the R.M.S. Athletic Department.

A. *In order to remain eligible to play extra-curricular sports at R.M.S.:*

1. *My commitment and involvement in a sport cannot adversely affect my academic grades or work habits to the extent that I am failing one or more subjects.*
2. *I must maintain a satisfactory sense of fair play, citizenship and attendance record.*

B. *I will conduct myself in an orderly manner, both on and off school premises, in such a way as to bring credit to my-self, my school, and family.*

C. *In the event that my sport requires a trip away from R.M.S. during class time, I will make an extra effort to ASK the teachers' permission to miss/leave class and cooperate with them to get my assignments in advance. If I do not attend school that day then I will not be allowed to participate that day. I understand that attendance in all classes is mandatory.*

D. *In all athletic contests played away from R.M.S. I will ride to and from the games in school transportation, unless special arrangements have been made with the coach and school administration.*

E. *My conduct and appearance, while travelling to contests played away from school. will be exemplary in all respects.*

F. *I will be personally responsible for all school athletic equipment checked out to me and will return it in the same condition when requested by my coach.*

G. *I understand that I am responsible for the condition of my uniform and will return it to my coach when required. I also understand that in the event that my uniform becomes lost or damaged I am responsible for the cost of RE- PLACEMENT.*

H. *I understand that I am committed to a sport for the duration of the season and will attend all meetings, practices and games, unless I have PERSONALLY notified my coach.*

I. *In the event that I cannot fulfill the commitment of my sport, I will personally notify my coach. I understand that failure to do so will result in suspension from further athletic participation at R.M.S. UNTIL THE MATTER IS CLEARED UP with my coach, the Athletic Director and a member of the Administration.*

J. *I understand that smoking is counterproductive to my development as an athlete and general health and that I will refrain from the use of tobacco products in any form.*

K. *I understand that the use of any alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs on school based trips will result in suspension from athletics at R.M.S.*

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AT RMS

ALL SETTINGS	CLASSROOM	HALLS, STAIRS & LOCKERS	SCHOOL GROUNDS & PARKING LOT	BUS & BUS ZONE	CAFETERIA & AUDITORIUM	GYM & AUDITORIUM	CHANGE ROOMS & WASHROOMS
• Respect others and their property. • Be kind and courteous. • Be honest. • Use appropriate language. • Follow instructions. • Follow dress code. • Use garbage and recycle containers. • Take responsibility for your own actions. • Use cell phones and ipods appropriately. • Try your best.	• Respect all opinions and listen with an open mind. • Respect others' personal space and property. • Allow others to learn without disruption. • Bring everything you need to class. • Wait your turn to speak. • Ask questions. • Take pride in your work. • Be on time.	• Walk safely without pushing. • Keep your lockers free of marks and graffiti. • Turn in "found" items to the office. • Use vending machines during breaks only. • Allow others to work in halls. • Respect other classroom learning environments by being quiet in the hallways.	• Bike racks are out of bounds during school hours. • Follow closed campus rules. • Leave snow on the ground. • Parking lot is only to be used as a pick up and drop off area. • Use skateboards and scooters in designed areas, with helmets.	• Respect bus drivers and riders. • Line up in designated areas. • Act safely at all times.	• Use appliances with caution. • Wait your turn. • Respect noon hour supervisors and parent volunteers. • Sit at a table to eat your lunch. • Clean up after yourself.	• Use equipment appropriately and safely. • Respect the facilities. • Be a good sport. • Listen to and follow directions. • Share equipment.	• Respect the facilities. • No loitering. • Keep cell phones out of washrooms and change rooms to respect privacy.