



FAMILY HANDBOOK

2017-2018

Riverview Charter School
81 Savannah Highway
Beaufort, South Carolina 29906
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www.RiverviewCharterSchool.org

Riverview Charter School is a public charter school and does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, gender, national origin or ethnicity in admission nor charge for enrollment. The school will administer all required state tests and comply with South Carolina educational requirements.

MISSION & PHILOSOPHY

Mission: *To create a small, diverse learning community that actively engages students in meaningful and innovative learning experiences. Emphasizing "learning by doing", family and community involvement, and engaged citizenship, Riverview is committed to nurturing the whole child and preparing each student for a global society.*

Riverview's experiential learning philosophy fosters learning by doing and constructing knowledge through experiences. Using an integrated curriculum with research-based methodology, students are encouraged to observe and explore their environment in a community that nurtures and respects each individual child.

At each grade level, Riverview's curriculum teaches basic academic concepts and skills, interwoven with interdisciplinary 21st century themes, through real-life experiences.

- Riverview students are challenged to practice their academic, social, and emotional skills through service projects they design and implement with community partners.
- Students develop their appreciation for the natural world through environmental education, guided experimentation, and fieldwork.
- They cultivate their natural artistic talents by actively participating in the visual and musical arts.
- Reading, writing, speaking, and mathematics are investigated through hands-on experiences and student-initiated projects.
- Students will come to know the world, embrace its cultures, participate in world language studies and learn its history through role play, interactive media and simulations.
- A wellness-focused curriculum promotes physical activity and healthy eating habits.
- Media literacy, collaboration, technology, and creative problem-solving skills foster critical thinking and are interwoven throughout all content areas.

Riverview's Core Values:

- Cooperation
- Empathy
- Gratitude
- Integrity
- Mindfulness
- Perseverance
- Stewardship

Riverview's School Rules:

- Take care of yourself
- Take care of others
- Take care of the environment

GOVERNING STRUCTURE

Riverview Charter School is a tax-exempt non-profit corporation through the South Carolina Secretary of State's office, and as such, is governed by a Board of Directors.

The Riverview Board of Directors is elected annually each December by the parent body and employees of Riverview Charter School, in compliance with Section 59-40-50 of the South Carolina Charter Schools Act (1996).

Riverview's Board of Directors is responsible for governing, not managing, the school. Board members ensure that Riverview's academic programs are consistent with the school's mission and are successful in educating all students, and that school funds are properly managed and accounted for. Board members also develop and evaluate school policies to ensure that they are lawful, fair, and provide appropriate protection and opportunity for everyone involved with the school.

Riverview Charter School's Director and Leadership Team are responsible for inspiring, leading, guiding and directing every member of the instructional and support services team, and for achieving the highest standards of excellence, so that each individual student enrolled in the school may have a complete, valuable, meaningful and personally rewarding education.

The Director is responsible directly to the Board of Directors for operating the school. The Board will delegate its authority to the school Director to execute approved policies as well as manage the day-to-day activities of the school.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Each member is responsible for actively participating in the work of the Riverview's Board of Directors and the life of the school. Each member is expected to affirm and strive to fulfill the performance expectations outlined below. These expectations are to be clearly articulated prior to accepting a nomination or applying to a position on the Board of Directors. In addition to the responsibilities below, individual members of the Board are expected to help each other fulfill the tasks outlined in the collective Job Description of the Board of Directors, as well as fulfill the responsibilities outlined for each Committee.

Specific Responsibilities:

1. Believe in and be an active advocate and ambassador for the values, mission, and vision of Riverview Charter School.
2. Work with fellow board members to fulfill the obligations of board membership.
3. Behave in ways that clearly contribute to the effective operations of the Board of Directors:
 - Focus on the good of the organization and not on a personal agenda;
 - Support board decisions once they are made;
 - Participate in an honest appraisal of one's own performance and that of the Board;
 - Build awareness of and vigilance towards governance matters rather than

Management;

- Adhere to all School policies;
- Maintain in the strictest of confidence, all personnel and legal matters.

4. Regularly attend Board and Committee meetings. Prepare for these meetings by reviewing and bringing necessary materials to meetings. If unable to attend, notify the Board or Committee Chairperson.

5. Be prepared to contribute approximately 8-10 hours per month toward Board service including:

- Attending a monthly Board of Directors meeting (2-3 hours)
- Reading materials and preparing for meetings (1 hour)
- Attending events at the school, assisting with fundraising and other ambassador tasks as needed (1-2 hours)

6. Keep informed about the school and its issues by reviewing materials, participating in discussions and asking strategic questions.

7. Actively participate in one or more fundraising event(s) annually.

8. Use personal and professional contacts and expertise for the benefit of Riverview.

Committees

In an effort to broaden input and generate as many possible avenues for parents, teachers and community members to invest in the development, activities and governance of the school, all Committees are comprised of (at a minimum) one parent of an enrolled student, one educator that is an employee of Riverview and one community member.

If you are interested in volunteering on a Committee please contact the Chair of the Board of Directors or the school's Director.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Riverview sees the community as a campus, the campus as a classroom, and the classroom as an active learning studio; students are encouraged to find opportunities for learning in their surroundings. In preparation for their use, Riverview is committed to providing environments that are healthy, authentic, true to their materials, and adaptable in keeping with current research and best practices of innovative learning environments.

Riverview's campus fosters the school's mission of actively engaging students through learning-by-doing, nurturing the whole child while preparing each student for the 21st century workforce. To meet this objective, the campus offers a wide variety of learning opportunities through a wide variety of experiences. Providing for the physical as well as social and emotional well-being of the student, spaces within Riverview's facilities reflect a more comfortable home-like atmosphere, mindful of the positive

impact that comfort has on learning, productivity, and creativity. As such, reflection and small-group collaboration is encouraged through soft seating and surfaces; activity and experiential learning is encouraged through uncluttered surfaces and spaces. Further, spaces designed to promote individual school investment are integrated into the larger framework of Riverview's collaborative campus environment, to the benefit of both students and staff.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FAMILY

Children learn best when there is a positive partnership between the School and the Family. In an effort to send a consistent message to students regarding the importance of education, and in support of the mission and values of Riverview Charter School we ask that families:

Model attitudes and behaviors that support the Riverview mission by:

- Showing respect to the teachers and Riverview staff by work and deed, both at school and away from
- Modeling effective conflict resolution by handling concerns appropriately, directly, and honestly, only with those involved.

Show respect for the importance of school by having students:

- Arrive on time and remain the full length of the school day.
- Comply with the school calendar in regard to vacations.
- Attend to everyday health and nutritional needs.
- Balance activities outside of school with school responsibilities.

Enhance learning by:

- Staying informed by reading, discussing and signing communications from the school, thereby demonstrating to your child that you are interested in his/her progress and learning.
- Monitoring the completion of class work, homework, and projects.
- Assisting with remedial assignments.
- Making a plan to obtain make-up assignments and monitoring their completion when necessary.
- Working with the Director and teachers to plan for absences other than those due to illness.
- Establishing a time, place, and routine for study at home.
- Giving positive reinforcement for appropriate attitudes and behaviors.
- Encouraging your child and praising him/her for doing his/her best.
- Attending Teacher/Parent/Student conferences to obtain detailed information about your child's strengths, weaknesses and progress and fulfilling agreements made at those conferences.
- Ensuring that your child has proper rest, nutrition and recreation to promote wellbeing and readiness to learn.
- Providing home consequences for inappropriate behaviors that interfere with learning or the wellbeing of all students.
- Spending time with your child so that his/her emotional needs are met and he/she can focus on learning.
- Cooperating with specific requests of the school to ensure appropriate student behavior and/or an appropriate academic program for your child.

- Supporting the overall school program by:
- Attending Riverview parent meetings and school functions regularly.
- Contributing volunteer services as time allows for your family and/or participating in school activities.

PROCEDURES FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

GENERAL ARRIVAL (8:15 A.M.)

Please refer to the map in the Appendix for and Arrival and Dismissal Map

School begins at 8:30 a.m. for all students. Dismissal begins at 3:00 p.m. Walkers & Bikers are dismissed from the Main Entrance of the school, as are car-riders in grades K, 1, 2 and their older siblings. Students in grades 3 - 8 are dismissed from the Gym, and bus riders report to the Cafeteria. *(Please refer to the building map in the Appendix for exit locations.)*

Regular student drop-off begins at 8:15 a.m. For the health, safety and wellbeing of children, please do not arrive before 8:15 a.m. as personnel are not available to supervise students. ***Please have all students remain in the car until Riverview Faculty and Staff greet students at their car in the Student Loading Zone at 8:15 a.m. The Front Doors of the school are locked until this time.*** All families are encouraged to “Kiss & Ride”. This is the safest and quickest way to drop-off your child(ren) as it limits their need to navigate our busy parking lot. Additionally, visitor parking is limited and should be reserved for parents who are parking to volunteer, chaperone a field trip, attend a school meeting, etc. Lastly, please refrain from using your cellphone or speeding while driving on school grounds. Again, the school parking lot is a busy place – student and family safety is our top priority.

Children who walk or bike to school should enter and exit the school at the Main Entrance. All bike riders are required to wear a helmet. It is important that students walk their bikes on the sidewalk since cars may be driving on all side streets to drop off students. Bikes should be locked in the designated bicycle racks located by the Main Entrance each day.

EARLY ARRIVAL (7:15 - 8:15 A.M.)

Students arriving at school prior to 8:15 a.m. (by car or by bus) may enroll in Morning Care through the TIDEWATCH program. Morning Care is available from 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., Monday through Friday. The fee for this program is \$2 per day. Please refer to the TIDEWATCH section of this Handbook for Morning Care procedures. If you have any questions, please contact, Jake Woelke, TIDEWATCH Director, at 379-0123 or jwoelke@riverviewcharterschool.org.

Students may not arrive prior to 8:15 a.m. unless enrolled in Tidewatch. Any student loitering on school grounds prior to 8:15 a.m. will be referred to Tidewatch Morning Care and charged the daily fee of \$2.

GENERAL DISMISSAL (3:00 P.M.)

At the end of class each day, students will be called to their designated pick-up place for dismissal over the intercom system. Cars should stay in a line and children will be loaded into cars in the order in which the cars are lined up. Parents are responsible for ensuring that their child(ren) are safely restrained once in their car. The carpool card provided by the school should be clearly displayed. ***Please do not pull out of the line if cars are loading in front of you.*** If you need to enter the building for any reason, please use the 30-minute visitor parking spaces by the Main Entry.

If you are planning to have your child walk or ride his/her bike to school, please note this on the Student Information form during enrollment.

It is very important that your emergency contact and carpool information is complete and up-to-date. Students can only be released to adults listed on the Student Information form completed during enrollment. If you wish to have another adult listed, please send the request, in writing, to the Front Office. If your request for a particular adult is just for one day, please send a note to the classroom. Children must have a permission note from their parent to go with a person not designated on the enrollment form. ***All changes to dismissal plans are to be called in to the Front Office by 1:00 p.m.***

Car riders who have not been picked up by 3:40 p.m. will be sent to Tidewatch afterschool care and charged the Tidewatch daily drop-in rate of \$15/day.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Beaufort County School District provides bus service for Riverview Charter School using the same routes available to students at the AMES Academy (located at Beaufort Elementary). ***Bus Waiver forms must be completed and returned at least 24 hours prior to a student riding the bus.*** Contact the Front Office for a current Bus Transportation schedule or email frontoffice@riverviewcharterschool.org.

If your child's bus does not arrive at the designated time above, you may call the Riverview Front Office at 843-379-0123, or Beaufort County School District at 843-322-0770.

ATTENDANCE AND EXCUSED ABSENCES

By law, all students in Grades K-12 must attend class a minimum of 170 days of the 180 day school year, excluding excused absences as defined by Riverview Charter School policy.

In accordance with state law, it is the policy of Riverview Charter School that excused absences are limited to: illness or tardiness for an appointment with a physician; a death in family; observance of a recognized religious holiday, or other health services that must be scheduled during school hours. Family compliance with this policy is crucial to the progress of each student and for the smooth functioning of each classroom. Absences for reasons other than these listed are not excused.

Truancy, out-of-school suspension and personal vacations are unexcused absences.

A child who has been ill should return to school only when well enough to participate fully in all activities. *See the Illness section of this Handbook return to school guidelines.*

Please notify the school by 10:00 a.m. when your child is sick. Please leave the following information on the recording: Student's name, Teacher's name, and date. ***Parents may excuse up to 5 days of illness without a doctor's excuse. After 5 illness related absences, a doctor's note will be required for an absence to be excused. If a doctor's note is not provided within three (3) days after an absence, the absence is unexcused.***

Upon written request from the Parent/Guardian, the school Director may approve pre-arranged absences. Approval will be granted when the absence is of significant educational benefit to the student. All schoolwork that happens during the absence must be completed satisfactorily.

Failure to comply with this policy will result in referrals to the Department of Social Services and Family Court for educational neglect and may require that a report be made to law enforcement.

UNEXCUSED TARDIES & EARLY DISMISSALS

Attendance is taken in homeroom each morning at 8:30 a.m., and students who arrive after this time are tardy. ***Any student who arrives after 8:30 a.m. must be accompanied by a Parent to the Front Office to sign-in and receive an Office to Homeroom Pass before proceeding to class.***

Consequences for repeated tardiness include the following:

- Five unexcused tardies = one unexcused absence;
- Five unexcused early dismissals (between 12noon & 3pm) = one unexcused absence;
- When a student has accrued five (5) or more unexcused absences due to tardiness or early dismissals, the School Counselor may call a meeting with the Parent (and Student) to make a support plan for punctuality;

For a tardy to be considered "excused" it must be accompanied by a doctor's note.

Persistent tardiness or absences may result in other consequences to be determined by the Director, including retention.

ILLNESS

It is very important that your child stay home if he/she is ill.

If your child has had a temperature above 100 degrees F, diarrhea, vomiting, a rash, discharge from the eyes, ears, or nose within the last 24 hours, please keep your child at home.

Remember, your child must be fever free (without fever reducing medication) for 24 hours before returning to school.

Please notify the Front Office before school starts on the day that your child is ill. Parents must notify the school nurse immediately if the child contracts or comes in contact with a contagious disease so that parents of children who may have been exposed can be alerted. These include but are not limited to: strep throat, scarlet fever, head lice, chickenpox and flu. Remember to notify the office for each subsequent day the child will be absent. A message may always be left on voice mail.

If your child becomes ill during the school day, you will be contacted. It is expected that a parent/guardian will pick up the child as soon as possible. If this is not possible, one of the adults listed on your child's emergency form will be contacted to pick up your child.

PE Excusal

If a medical condition necessitates a student being temporarily unable to participate in physical education class, a note from his/her physician must be brought to school and **given to the Physical Education teacher**. A note from a Parent will be accepted on the first day, thereafter confirmation by a doctor is required.

Riverview Wellness Policy

The Riverview Board of Directors, Director and Executive Chef acknowledge the great progress made as the result of passing of the Healthy Hunger Kids Act of 2010, designed to improve school foods, community health and wellness policies in all schools. In many ways the Healthy Hunger Kids Act mirrors the intent of our original policy. Therefore the Riverview Wellness Policy is adopted directly from the USDA Model Wellness Policy, which serves to outline USDA requirements for our school's continued participating in the National School Lunch, Breakfast and Snack Programs.

Due to the length and scope of the Wellness Policy, it is included in its entirety in the Appendix of this Handbook.

BRINGING OUTSIDE FOOD INTO THE CAFE

In keeping with USDA guidelines, outside food cannot be brought into the lunchroom during school hours. The USDA has strict guidelines on this topic and Riverview's failure to enforce this policy could jeopardize Riverview's funding for Free and Reduced Price meals. We appreciate each family's cooperation and understanding, and encourage you to eat school prepared meals when dining with your children at school.

PEANUT POLICY

Riverview takes life threatening allergies very seriously as well as its commitment to fostering an environment of inclusivity for all students. Consequently, ***Riverview is a peanut “sensitive” school and as such we do not allow items containing peanuts at school.*** Although we attempt, to the best of our ability, to keep the school “peanut free”, it is at times beyond our control and therefore the school does not claim the legal responsibility of being completely free of peanuts. Parents of students with nut allergies should instruct their children carefully as to what to avoid.

Parents should not give students peanuts or peanut products in their snacks or brown bag lunches. Violating this policy is strongly disapproved of by the school as it may endanger the safety of another student.

FOOD SHARING AND SERVING (AKA PARTY POLICY)

Riverview does not permit the sharing or serving of ANY foods to Riverview students (in the classrooms or cafeteria) by students, parents or teachers without prior written approval from the Director.

USDA FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM

Riverview Charter School participates in the USDA’s Free and Reduced Price Meals Program. Your child(ren) may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is \$.30 for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch. Applications for free and reduced price meals are available online and will be backpacked home with students during the first two weeks of school. Additionally applications may be picked up in the Front Office any time. A completed and approved application is required for participation in this program under federal guidelines.

HEALTH GUIDELINES

The school has a registered nurse on staff. Parents need to inform the school nurse whenever a child has a chronic medical condition and/or will need prescribed medicines or treatments during the school day. Except for children who need access to asthma inhalers and EpiPens, children at Riverview may not keep medicines in their cubbies/lockers or carry them in school or on school trips. Only the school nurse administers medication or prescribed treatments during the school day. ***If a child is prescribed a medication or a prescribed medication is changed, parents MUST notify the school nurse in order to ensure the best possible care of your child.*** If a child takes a daily medication prior to school but the parent fails to administer the medication from time to time, this may have an adverse effect on the child’s learning. In these cases, the parent will be called to either administer the medication at school, or to remove the child from school for the remainder of the day.

The school nurse periodically examines children for head lice. If signs of head lice are spotted, the child will be sent home immediately for treatment. ***The nurse must re-examine and give clearance to the child before that child may return to class.*** If your child or a sibling has a case of lice, please inform the school nurse so classmates can be checked.

The school nurses urge all parents to reinforce simple hygienic practices. Encourage children to use tissue to wipe noses following a sneeze or cough and then wash hands with soap and water after disposing tissues in a wastebasket. Remind them to wash hands thoroughly before lunch and after going to the bathroom and not to share food or drinks.

Medical records and emergency contact forms for returning students must be on file in the school office by the first week in August each year.

It is imperative for the school to have up to date contact information for parents and guardians at all times, in case of a medical emergency.

Medication Administration

In an effort to establish a safe and effective system for providing medications to students during the school day and at school-sponsored functions, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control has outlined General Standards of Medication Administration in a school setting. Below are just a few of the important items regarding the regulation of medications at Riverview.

Medications should be brought to the school by a responsible adult and delivered to the school nurse or, in the absence of the nurse, the Front Office personnel.

Parents/guardians must provide medications to the school in original containers with all labeling from the pharmacy and/or manufacturer intact and readable. Each medication must be labeled with the student's name.

Over-the-counter medications that a parent/guardian may provide for short-term (1 to 2 weeks) or episodic use require only the written permission of the parent/guardian if the medication will be given per the manufacturer's guidelines.

The following require a written order from a healthcare practitioner who is recognized by South Carolina's Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation as authorized to prescribe medications and written permission from the parent/guardian:

- prescribed medications,
- herbal/alternative medicinal products,
- experimental medications,
- medications being used off-label (including over-the-counter medications to be given in dosages or for reasons that are not consistent with the medication label or package insert), and
- Over-the-counter medications sent by a parent/guardian for frequent, long-term use

At the time of purchase, if requested, pharmacists may assist parents/guardians by preparing separate containers for doses of medications to be given during school hours and field trips.

Medications that have expired or are not currently being used by a student will not be stored at the school. Parents will be notified and given an opportunity to pick up their child's medications. Medications that are not picked up will be disposed of in a manner that respects security as well as environmental concerns.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the administration of medications at Riverview, please contact Cathy Bridgers, School Nurse, at 843-379-0123.

SCHOOL SAFETY POLICIES

Riverview Charter School has comprehensive school safety and crisis management procedures to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of its students, faculty, staff, visitors and volunteers. Faculty and staff are briefed on these procedures and are expected to follow and enforce all procedures and guidelines for school safety and security.

The following are basic guidelines:

- All members of the school community are expected to use courtesy, respect and common sense with regard to issues of school safety.
- **Visitors and Volunteers must sign-in at the Front Office. Only the Main Entrance is open from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please do not attempt to enter the building through other exterior doors as school staff is trained NOT to open door and admit non-school personnel during school hours.**
- Bicycles may not be brought into the school building; they must be left outside and locked at designated areas.
- Students are not permitted in the school building without Faculty supervision.
- **Smoking and alcohol is absolutely prohibited in all school buildings and on school grounds.**
- Fire drills, which are required by the Fire Department, take place regularly at the school building. These drills are an essential and important exercise to prepare for an emergency situation. Silence must be kept throughout the drill and efficiency in vacating the building is expected. Students, faculty and staff are apprised of fire drill routines and procedures. **Anyone visiting or volunteering in the school must participate in fire drills.**
- “Sheltering in” means to take immediate shelter where you are – at home, work, school or in between – usually for just a few minutes. Riverview will practice sheltering in every year.

CLASSROOM VISITATIONS

Riverview Charter School encourages family participation in its child’s education. Visitations to the classroom shall be scheduled by mutual agreement between the classroom Teacher and the Parent(s)/Guardian(s). If the Director or a member of the Leadership Team determines that the classroom learning environment is adversely affected by the visit, he/she may cancel or terminate a classroom visit at any time.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DUE TO WEATHER

Riverview is closed whenever other Beaufort County School District schools are closed due to severe weather or citywide emergency. If, for any other reason, there is a change in the school schedule, a notice will be posted immediately on the school website (www.riverviewcharterschool.org) and an e-mail communication will be sent to all parents for whom an e-mail address is on file. Please listen to local radio and television stations for updates.

EVACUATION

Fire drill and evacuation procedures are posted in each classroom and by each exit. Procedures will be reviewed and simulated on a regular basis.

STUDENT WITHDRAWAL

If you are withdrawing your child from Riverview for any reason, please contact the Front Office for a withdrawal form so your child's records may be sent to the receiving school in a timely manner.

In order for us to continually improve Riverview and our support for students and families, we ask upon withdrawal that you complete an Exit Survey. This information is very important to our ability to change and improve.

RE-ENROLLMENT

During January of each school year, Riverview accepts new applications for the next school year. For current students, "re-enrollment" forms must be completed each January in order for the student to return to Riverview during the upcoming school year. **If a parent decides to not complete the re-enrollment form by January, 31st of each year, they relinquish their child's seat for the upcoming year.** If, after completing enrollment paperwork, the family decides to withdraw, a written withdrawal form from the Parent/Guardian is required in order to relinquish their seat to another student.

CHECK RETURN POLICY

All returned checks are subject to a \$35.00 fee. Families/Staff will be sent a written notice of the returned check by the Operations Manager, along with a copy of the returned item and a note explaining the returned check fee (\$35). The note will serve as an invoice for the total amount due including the returned check fee. Riverview will accept another check to cover the invoice balance.

Families/Staff who have two (2) returned checks must make all future payments by cash or credit card. Additional checks cannot be accepted.

STUDENT ACCOUNTS (NON-TIDEWATCH)

Fees for all goods and services provided by Riverview are payable at the time of receipt. Families who wish to charge goods and services to their Wordware Account (online account) must have a current Bank Account or Credit Card number included with their account information.

In the event that Riverview provides a good or service to a student without receiving payment in advance, Riverview shall provide a weekly written invoice to the student's family via email. All invoices are sent on Fridays and payments are due the following Monday. ***All payments are applied to the oldest unpaid principle in each account and cannot be designated as payment for a specific or more recent charge.***

Accounts not paid in full are subject to the following fees:

- 30 days past due = \$25 late fee
- 60+ days past due = an additional \$25 late fee

The Director has the authority to mitigate late fees, arrange for alternative payments, and establish parent payment plans. In reviewing requests for the waiving of late fees, the Director may consider

extenuating circumstances such as, but not limited to: exceptional financial burdens, reduction in family income, family crisis, extraordinary medical expenses and past account history.

All costs associated with collections on the account, including but not limited to attorney's fees, shall be paid by the student's family. The Parent/Guardian of the student is legally responsible for all fees incurred by the student. Riverview Charter School reserves the right to use outside agencies to attempt to collect any amounts owed.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Integrity is one of Riverview's core values and it has a significant role in academic pursuits. An academic community must be able to rely on the honesty and integrity of all its members. Using or copying of another's words, ideas, thoughts or arguments without giving credit is intellectually dishonest.

HOMEWORK

Homework assignments are intended to solidify concepts and skills, and to extend the learning that takes place in school. The amount of time needed to complete homework varies from student to student. The following is a schedule of the frequency of assignments and flexible guidelines for the time a student is expected to spend on homework. Parents are asked to inform the teacher if their child is spending substantially more or less time than is suggested.

- Kindergarten 1 - 2x week 10 minutes + 30 minutes nightly reading with Parent or Guardian
- 1st grade 4 x week 10 minutes + 30 minutes nightly reading with Parent or Guardian
- 2nd grade 4 x week 20 minutes + 30 minutes nightly reading with Parent or Guardian;
- 3rd grade 4 x week 30 minutes + 30 minutes independent reading or reading with Parent or Guardian;
- 4th grade 4 x week 40 minutes + 30 minutes independent reading or reading with Parent or Guardian;
- 5th grade 4 x week 50 minutes + 30 minutes reading;
- 6th grade 4 x week 60 minutes + 30 minutes reading;
- 7th Grade 4 x week 75 minutes + 30 minutes reading;
- 8th Grade 4 x week 75 minutes + 30 minutes reading;

Long-term projects have specific written guidelines with the due date indicated for each portion of the assignment. Teachers will coordinate so that no more than two tests or projects are due on the same day.

ASSESSMENT

Riverview teachers use multiple forms of assessment to promote cognitive, physical, social and emotional growth. The following domains are used to communicate student progress in conferences and written reports.

- 4 = Area of Excellence *Consistently exceeds expectations*
- 3 = Area of Proficiency *Consistently meets expectations*
- 2 = Area of Development *Meets some grade level expectations with support*
- 1 = Area of Concern *Working below grade level & requires a high level of intervention and support*

If a student receives 1 in multiple areas, an Intervention Team meeting may be convened to review whether retention in the current grade is in a student's best interest. Beginning in 6th grade, conversions of assessments to letter grades will be recorded on each Trimester's Report Card and in the student's permanent file.

A complete description of concept-based reporting, as well as copies of each grade's report card, can be found on the school website at <http://www.riverviewcharterschool.org/ReportCards.html>

RETENTION

Retention is the practice of requiring a student who has been in a given grade level for a full year to remain at that level for a subsequent school year. Riverview Charter School is committed to differentiation in instruction and provides support for meeting the instructional needs of each child through strategies including Unit Planning, Student Intervention Team (SIT), counselor services, and Response to Intervention (RtI).

Faculty members or a Parent/Guardian may refer a student for consideration of retention. Each student will receive individual consideration and a decision will be made only after a careful study of facts relating to phases of the child's growth and development. The child's academic achievement level, mental ability, physical and social characteristics are all important factors. All decision are to be based upon sufficient data, collected over a period of time, and motivated by the desire to place the child in the school program where he or she will be the most successful. In addition, such decisions, when applied to students enrolled in special education, shall be on a case by case basis, consistent with the individualized education plan.

The Director has final authority regarding the retention of students.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES & REPORT CARDS

Formal conferences between the teacher and parents are held each fall and as needed each spring. Report cards are available digitally through Riverview's web site three times a year. Parents needing a printed report cards may submit a request to the Front Office.

To encourage ongoing dialogue between parents and teachers, conferences may be requested at any time during the school year. The school encourages parents to share with the teacher any changes in the child's family situation or new experience that the child may have outside of school that could impact the child at school.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SECTION 504

Special Education means specially designed instruction (34 C.F.R. § 300.39(a)(1)), to address the unique needs of a child that result from the child's disability to ensure the child has access to the general education. Special Education supports the student in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) through the implementation of specially designed instruction, accommodations/modifications, materials and curriculum, as appropriate.

Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) are required by federal law (IDIEA) for all students who meet criteria as a student with a disability. Written by a collaborative team that includes the child's parents, general education teachers, special educators, related service providers, and community agencies as appropriate, an IEP documents the educational and related services a student requires to reach specified short-term and long-term goals.

In order for a student to qualify for Special Education services, a student must meet eligibility as a student with a disability **and** the child must have specific needs which are so unique that they require specially designed instruction to access the general education curriculum (34 C.F.R. § 300.8).

Section 504 is an act that prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. It assures that persons with disabilities have educational opportunities and benefits equal to those provided to non-disabled students. The act defines a person with a disability as anyone who:

(1) has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working); (2) has a record of such impairment; or (3) is regarded as having such an impairment.

As a public school, Riverview has obligations under IDEA and Section 504 which include identifying, evaluating and, if the child is determined to be eligible under IDEA or Section 504, affording access to appropriate educational accommodations or specially designed instruction.

TUTORING POLICY

Riverview Charter School faculty and staff may only tutor students outside of school with prior written approval by the Director. This policy is in place to avoid conflicts of interest, which will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

CLASS AND GRADE ASSIGNMENT

In all grade levels, Riverview Charter School attempts to balance classrooms with regard to gender and race, placing students in accordance with a small pupil to teacher ratio and being mindful of differentiation in instruction. Parental and teacher input will be considered by the Director in establishing class placement, and the Director has final authority in placement for all students.

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Prior to placing middle school students in advanced courses, many factors are considered including (but not limited to): past performance in similar content areas; work ethic; academic maturity; attendance; classroom behavior and participation; MAP scores; and SCREADY/SCPASS scores. In order for students to be placed in an advanced middle school courses, students must have the recommendation of their last year's teacher AND either the minimum cut-score in MAP or SCREADY/SCPASS (cut-scores vary by course). Students who wish to participate in advanced courses but do not have at least two of these three indicators may do so on a trial basis. Parents and Students seeking a trial placement should contact the school Director prior to the start of the academic school year.

The Director has the final authority for changes in assignment.

CHANGE IN CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENT

Students will be allowed to change classroom assignments provided:

- Such change is determined to be in the best interest of the “whole child” after careful evaluation and consultation by a Transition Team composed of the school’s Director, Social and Emotional Counselor, the student’s current teacher, the student’s proposed “new” teacher, the student’s parent(s)/legal guardian(s) and the student, if appropriate;
- That “differentiation” within the current classroom is carefully considered and deemed inappropriate, and that;
- Such change is made only on a space available basis.

The Director has the final authority for changes in classroom assignments.

FIELD TRIP POLICY

Fieldwork is an essential component of curriculum design at Riverview Charter School. All students should be offered an opportunity to participate at each grade level in an educational experience outside the school campus. ***In advance of participating on a field trip students must have 1) the proper permission form on file, 2) paid in full for the fieldwork and 3) cannot have an outstanding account balance for past fees (lunch, Tidewatch, iPad repairs, etc.) Students should wear a green Riverview shirt and khaki or navy bottoms while off campus,*** unless otherwise approved by the Director or her designee. Students arriving after the class have left the campus, students who have not paid in advance for the fieldwork, or students without a signed permission form must remain at the school.

While participating in a field trip, students are expected to comply with all school rules and students who violate those rules are subject to discipline, including, but not limited to: being sent home with a chaperone, if required, at the parent’s expense. Students may not be allowed to participate in a field trip for reasons of discipline or safety as determined by the Director or/and her designee.

Students are responsible for up to \$30.00 of costs associated with a single day field trip with the school covering all costs in excess of \$30.00/student.

Riverview does offer financial assistance for Fieldwork, and requirements for eligibility are as follows:

- Student(s) must be currently approved and receiving Free or Reduced Price Lunches at Riverview;
- Students who currently receive Free Lunches will receive a 75% discount on the cost of field trips up to a total of \$50 per student per school year;
- Students who currently receive Reduced Price Lunches will receive a 50% discount on the cost of field trips up to a total of \$50 per student, per year.

Families who would like to apply for our Fieldwork Scholarship Program should contact Office Manager, Meghan Pierro, for an application.

Chaperones are limited to 2 chaperones/19 students unless otherwise noted on the permission slip. Chaperones must:

- Have completed a Volunteer Interest Form, requisite background check and have completed a Volunteer Orientation prior to participating as a chaperone.
- Supervise the fieldwork experience in its entirety, including riding the bus to and from all fieldwork experiences.
- Support and abide by all RCS rules as well as the teachers' disciplinary guidelines.

Attendance on all field trips is limited to Riverview students who are enrolled in the grade level(s) for which the field trip is intended, and Parents/Guardians who are serving as chaperones.

Being mindful of student safety, parents, grandparents, siblings, etc. may not participate in a fieldwork experience they are not chaperoning.

Additional conditions, as determined by the Director, may be required for overnight trips.

HOME TO SCHOOL RELATIONS

Prompt, respectful, and candid communication between School and Home is critical to student success. Since, over time, issues will often emerge that need clarification, your assistance with a few ground rules will help the process and reduce the likelihood of misunderstanding. Routine questions about attendance, forms, trip information, and the like should be addressed to Meghan Pierro, Office Manager.

Parents who have a question or concern about a particular class should first contact the teacher of that class. Faculty may be contacted by email or telephone.

If a question or concern persists or a parent somehow feels uncomfortable discussing something with a teacher, then he/she should contact the school Director or another Leadership Team member. Any question or concern will be responded to in the most appropriate manner.

It is our practice to make every effort to acknowledge all messages within 24 hours of receipt.

COMMUNICATION BY EMAIL

Most of the school's communication with parents, from notifications of calendar items to emergency communications, is via email. Parents who include their email addresses on the Student Information Forms are automatically registered for this service. If you have not registered your email address with the school, or should your email change, please send an email to Liz O'Brien (eobrien@riverviewcharterschool.org). Include your name, your child's name and grade in the text of the email. All email subscribers will receive a weekly newsletter from the school. If you would prefer to receive a printed copy of the newsletter, please notify Liz O'Brien (eobrien@riverviewcharterschool.org).

MESSAGES

Parents who need to leave a message for their child or who wish to speak with their child's teacher may call the Front Office and the message will be delivered. **If there is an *emergency change in your child's dismissal, Parents/Guardians must notify the Front Office by phone, Option #1000 (not email), no later than 1:00pm.***

Parents may communicate with teachers by email for routine messages and questions. **Changes in dismissal plans on the day of dismissal may not be sent by email.** We encourage Parents/Guardians to call for substantive matters pertaining to a child's academic or social progress.

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

"Take-Home Folders" will be sent home with most students each week and will include all paper communications from the school for that week. No materials from individuals or outside organizations will be distributed by Riverview unless the outside organization and Riverview have formed a Strategic Partnership. Organizations that wish to form a Strategic Partnership with Riverview must obtain, through the Front Office, a Strategic Partnership Proposal to be approved by the Director. This Proposal outlines the desired action(s) by the school on behalf of the organization as well as the organization's specific action(s) that will benefit the school.

VOLUNTEERING IN THE SCHOOL

Riverview Charter School encourages the participation of the entire family in the education process and emphasizes the importance of a pledge to life-long learning. The parental role in achieving the Riverview vision is critical. This role can take many forms. All parents are encouraged to provide a home atmosphere in which their children are supported in their educational goals. Frequent two-way communication between school and home is strongly encouraged at RCS. This serves to keep parents informed of their children's progress and any special help they may need. It also provides an opportunity for the parents to discuss any questions or concerns with school personnel.

Parents of Riverview Charter School students are welcome to volunteer for many school activities in the classroom; as chaperones; as helpers in the maintenance of the school; as coaches; as participants in the Riverview Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO); as members of the school board or its committees, task forces, etc.; in contributing special talents and skills; or by providing financial contributions to the school.

Because volunteer activities are so important to the operation of the School, it is essential that they be conducted in concert with and in support of the School's teaching staff. It is the role of the Board to set the policy of the school; it is the role of the Leadership Team and staff to implement those policies; and it is the role of the volunteers to support that implementation. Volunteers in the classroom are cherished and appreciated at Riverview Charter School. Classroom volunteers are required to complete a Volunteer Interest Form to allow a security and background check, and to attend an orientation meeting. Volunteers must sign the Volunteer Log in the Front Office and receive proper identification to wear in the school while volunteering.

Please refer to the school's website for the complete Volunteer Policy.

GIFT POLICY

RCS requests that individual expressions of appreciation be done with small gifts or through a note. ***Solicitation of financial donations for group gifts is prohibited.*** We make this request because the donation can be a financial burden to some families, the receipt of an expensive gift may be uncomfortable for a teacher, but most importantly, we look to preserve the professional, conflict free, balance that exists among Teachers, Students, and Parents.

PUBLIC FORUM

Riverview Charter School premises may not be used as a public forum by any individual, group or organization other than the Riverview Board of Directors or designee. Any use of school facilities by any other entity for purposes such as the signing of petitions, is expressly prohibited.

FACILITIES USE POLICY

As a means for fostering community involvement, the Board of Directors wishes to make Riverview's facilities reasonably available to the community in a way that does not take away from its primary responsibility; does not jeopardize the person or property of the School, the user or any invitee, and; does not materially burden the School with additional costs or risk of liability.

This policy does not apply to school sponsored organizations such as school clubs and societies (National Junior Honor Society, etc.), school athletic teams, school visual and performing arts groups (band, drama club, etc.) and other student-oriented groups.

Individuals interested in using Riverview's facility in support of community organization may download the Facilities Use Application from the School's website (www.RiverviewCharterSchool.org). Please contact Operations Manager Natalie Wohlwend (nwohlwend@riverviewcharterschool.org) with questions.

STUDENT LIFE

TIDEWATCH

Riverview Charter School's TIDEWATCH program includes Time for Investigation, Discovery and Enrichment opportunities While participating in programs After Traditional Classroom Hours. TIDEWATCH provides onsite before and after school care that combines learning opportunities that support the vision of the school with meaningful programs that engage students and build a strong sense of community. Expert instructors facilitate the programs that are offered and the experiential philosophy embraced by Riverview is also vital to TIDEWATCH. Program offerings focus on components identified as integral to the vision of Riverview in its charter: service-learning, healthy living, environmental stewardship, art infusion, global awareness/respect for diversity, technology, social/emotional wellness, and community partnerships.

Expectations for Behavior

During TIDEWATCH, our goal is to provide a positive learning environment for all children - one that fosters self-discipline. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own actions and must respect self, others, and the environment. Clear, consistent rules are developed with input from the students, and the TIDEWATCH staff promotes positive behavior through clear expectations, positive guidance, redirection, and conferences.

Participation in the TIDEWATCH program is a privilege. If a student's behavior in TIDEWATCH results in a referral to the school's Leadership Team (or the TIDEWATCH Director), the student will automatically be sent home from Tidewatch for the remainder of that day. Upon the third disciplinary referral during Tidewatch within an academic school year, a student may not return to Tidewatch for the remainder of that academic year.

Personal Property

Students bring personal property to school at their own risk. Riverview, its faculty and staff are NOT responsible for any damaged, missing, or stolen cell phones, iPods, etc.

Should a student need to make a phone call while at TIDEWATCH, s/he must receive permission from a Riverview TIDEWATCH staff member and will be directed to use one of the school's landlines to make the call. Parents who need to contact a student while s/he is at TIDEWATCH should also call the main office.

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Enrollment Procedures

To enroll your child in the TIDEWATCH program, please visit the Riverview Charter School website (TIDEWATCH tab) and complete the [online](#) enrollment application. If you do not have access to the internet, you may schedule an appointment to complete the enrollment with the TIDEWATCH Director.

Cost

After School Care Rates

- **Option 1: Full-Time After School Care until 6:00 p.m. - \$70.00 per student/week**
Full-time is considered attendance for 5 days per week. Should you chose to participate in Enrichment Classes, the cost of those classes (excluding instrument rental and/or books) is included in your tuition of \$70/week. Priority for the Enrichment Classes are given to Full-Time After School Care participants each trimester. ***Tuition is paid in advance of care each Monday and is due in full.***
- **Option 2: Drop-In Care 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. - \$15 per student/day**
This is for those times when occasional care is needed. Please remember to notify the Front Office **and** your child’s homeroom teacher before 1:00 p.m. on the day(s) when your child will “drop-in” to Tidewatch. Drop-in care is totaled each Friday and ***your weekly balance is due in full the following Monday.***
- **Option 3: Enrichment Class(es) - \$15 per student/day**
TIDEWATCH offers a variety of after school enrichment classes. Enrollment in these Enrichment Classes is done each Trimester. ***All students enrolled in an Enrichment Class are obligated for one full trimester of fees for the number of days in the trimester for the selected class(es). Fees are paid weekly each Monday in advance of care.*** Students will participate in regularly scheduled Tidewatch activities before and after their enrichment class(es). Space in each Enrichment Class is limited and is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis with priority given to Full-Time After School Care participants. The pick up time is when Tidewatch ends at 6:00 p.m. Please visit <http://riverviewcharterschool.org/TIDEWATCH> for a current schedule and class description information for Enrichment Classes and Drop-In care.

TIDEWATCH offers a 5% discount when entire session balances are paid in full before the start of the session/trimester. TIDEWATCH also gives a 10% sibling discount for subsequent siblings enrolled in the same after school program/class. Discounts do not apply to Morning Care.

Morning Care Rate

Morning Care - \$2.00 per student/day

Morning Care is offered starting at 7:15 a.m. daily. Students may participate in quiet games, activities, read, and/or complete homework prior to being released for school at 8:15 a.m. Per Riverview policy, students may not be on or around school grounds unsupervised. ***All morning bus riders must register for Morning Care and pay the daily fee.*** All students dropped off prior to 8:15 a.m. will be directed to Morning Care and charged the daily fee of \$2.00. Morning Care fees are billed each Friday and payment is due in full the following Monday.

Attendance

Your payment obligation is based on the schedule you choose along with any selected Individual Enrichment Program fees, not the actual hours of attendance. All Individual Enrichment Program fees

will be charged based on contracted days including missed days due to illness, parent vacations, etc. No refunds or deductions can be made for days your child is absent.

Termination of Services

Families are required to provide two (2) weeks written notice if they wish to change their child's TIDEWATCH schedule or withdraw from TIDEWATCH.

The two (2) week notice period will enable TIDEWATCH to fill the vacancy and therefore minimize any possible loss of income. This is one of the ways in which we can reduce our cost and maintain our affordable tuition for Riverview families. Families are obligated to pay fees associated with Enrichment Class(es) for one (1) full trimester. Termination of this obligation may be waived if there is a wait list in the particular Enrichment Class you wish to withdraw from.

Payments

Payments for *Full-Time After School Care and Enrichment Classes* are paid each Monday in advance of care. Payments for *Drop-in Care and Morning Care* are totaled weekly on Friday and payment is due the following Monday. Invoices are emailed to the address on file. You may also monitor your TIDEWATCH account for all programs through the online parent portal via the Riverview Charter School website.

All Tidewatch participants must enroll in auto draft. Auto drafts will occur each Monday. Drafts will not occur for accounts with a positive balance. A valid Credit Card is required to register and for continued use of the Tidewatch program to include Morning Care. An alternate method for payment may be arranged on a case-by-case basis. Requests for such are to be directed to the Tidewatch Director prior to each trimester. All reasonable requests shall be granted with approval in writing.

It is vital for families who are finding it difficult in meeting their financial obligations, to discuss the matter immediately with the TIDEWATCH Director so an alternate payment arrangement can be made. Any such arrangement will remain confidential.

Overdue Account Procedures

When a student enrolls in TIDEWATCH it is a requirement that a Credit Card Account be provided. TIDEWATCH will attempt to collect payments (including fees) from the account on file, according to the payment schedule. Parent/Guardians are responsible for ensuring that the Credit Card details provided are up to date, accurate and are required to notify the TIDEWATCH Director, should Credit Card details change. You may update this information yourself via the parent portal.

If an auto draft is declined for any reason an email notification is sent to the address on file immediately.. Attempts to collect overdue account fees are made daily until all fees are collected or an alternate payment arrangement has been approved by the Tidewatch Director. If an account is not settled by 6:00 p.m. on the Friday after the due date, and no payment arrangement has been made, the account is considered "delinquent".

Students with delinquent accounts are not permitted to attend ANY TIDEWATCH program regardless of which program fees are delinquent.

Overtime Rates and Late Fees

Late Pick-up Fee: \$1.00 per minute after 6:00p.m.

One late pick-up is granted (must have a legitimate reason and may not exceed 6:15p.m.) without a late fee charge. After the one late pick-up has been used, late charges will be assessed for tardiness. This policy is strictly enforced. Habitual late pick-ups will result in termination of services.

If a child has not been picked up by 6:15 p.m., emergency personnel may be contacted.

Late Payment Fees

- 30 days past due = \$25 late fee
- 60+ days past due = an additional \$25 late fee will be assessed
- Returned Check Fee: \$35.00 and any additional fees incurred
- Dishonored Payments: \$15.00

The School Director has the authority to mitigate late fees, arrange for alternative payments, and establish parent payment plans. In reviewing requests for the waiving of late fees, the Director may consider extenuating circumstances such as, but not limited to: exceptional financial burdens, reduction in family income, family crisis, extraordinary medical expenses and past account history.

All costs associated with collection on the account, including but not limited to attorney's fees, shall be paid by the student's family. The Parent/Guardian of the student is legally responsible for all fees incurred by the student. Riverview Charter School reserves the right to use outside agencies to attempt to collect any amounts owed.

Definitions

Returned Check Fee: Per RCS policy, all returned checks are subject to a \$35.00 fee.

Dishonored Payments: If a Credit Card draft amount declines for any reason, TIDEWATCH will attempt to collect the balance starting on the following business day and will attempt daily until all fees are collected or an alternate method for payment has been arranged with the Tidewatch Director.

Financial Aid

The TIDEWATCH Scholarship Program is designed to provide Riverview families with the financial assistance they need to obtain quality onsite after school care. Tidewatch combines learning opportunities in support of Riverview's mission, with meaningful programs that engage students and build a strong sense of community. To ensure that TIDEWATCH remain viable and accessible to all families, regardless of a family's financial circumstance, scholarships are awarded based on need and availability of funds. Please note that the maximum scholarship assistance available to any student is 75% of the total cost and does not include fees associated with any Individual Enrichment Program or

Morning Care. Exceptions can be made to include the cost of Individual Enrichment Program fees based on the number of class openings.

Families must reapply for TIDEWATCH Financial Aid each Session (Trimester) by completing and returning the Scholarship Application and attaching the required documents to the TIDEWATCH Director in a sealed envelope. All scholarship applications are due two weeks prior to the start of each session. Applications turned in after the cut-off date will go to the bottom of the priority list.

Financial Aid is determined by the TIDEWATCH Director based on a priority of needs criteria whereby students who are eligible for Free Lunch may receive up to a 75% scholarship and students who are eligible for Reduced Lunch may receive up to a 50% scholarship. The costs associated with Individual Enrichment Programs and Morning Care is not included in any scholarship award.

Families who do not qualify for Free or Reduced Price Lunch but wish to seek financial assistance from TIDEWATCH are encouraged to apply. These applications be prioritized based on the same priority of needs list as all other applications and will be awarded a price reduction based on the availability of program funds.

In keeping with Riverview policy, the total of all awarded scholarships cannot exceed 10% of the TIDEWATCH budget by Trimester. All decisions made by the TIDEWATCH Director regarding scholarships are final.

Scholarship Priority of Needs Criteria:

Applicants meeting the Free/Reduced Lunch standards are prioritized based on the following criteria (1-6):

- 1) SINGLE PARENT STATUS:
 - i) Full time employed
 - ii) Part-time employed and part-time student
 - iii) Full-time student
- 2) DUAL PARENT STATUS:
 - i) Both parents employed (full-time)
 - ii) Both parents are students (full-time)
 - iii) Combination of employed or student (full-time)
- 3) SINGLE PARENT STATUS:
 - i) Part-time employed or student
- 4) DUAL PARENT STATUS:
 - i) One parent employed (full or part-time)
- 5) SINGLE PARENT STATUS:
 - i) Unemployed and not a student
- 6) DUAL PARENT STATUS:
 - i) Both parents are unemployed and are not students

(Priority within the categories will go to those families with the least amount of gross total household income per household member).

Volunteering in Tidewatch

Parents may volunteer to offset the cost of TIDEWATCH. For each hour of meaningful and engaged volunteer work in direct support of the TIDEWATCH program, one hour of TIDEWATCH care will be deducted from your child's TIDEWATCH balance. A minimum of three (3) volunteer hours must be completed before one (1) day (3 hours) of TIDEWATCH care can be deducted from your child's TIDEWATCH balance.

Parents must complete and return a Riverview Volunteer Interest Form and required background check prior to volunteering in TIDEWATCH. Information about volunteering at Riverview can be found in the Front Office and on the school's website. All volunteers must sign in and out of the volunteer log in the Front Office to receive credit for their hours. Advanced written notice to the TIDEWATCH Director is required.

Tidewatch Check-Out

All students must be checked out upon conclusion of their after school program or by 6:00 p.m. via the Main Entrance. A face-to-face check out between Parent and a TIDEWATCH staff member is mandatory for a student to be released.

Students can only be released to the individuals listed on their school carpool authorization form of their online TIDEWATCH registration form. Parents may update this information as needed via the parent portal. Persons under the age of 16 are not permitted to collect children from TIDEWATCH. Staff will request photo identification from individuals whom they do not recognize as routinely picking up students.

The TIDEWATCH staff may refrain from releasing a student into the care of the authorized adult if he or she feels that the adult is under the influence of alcohol or drugs or if the staff member feels the adult is impaired and the health, safety, and well being for the student is in question. The authorized adult shall make alternate arrangements for transportation and/or care of the student to satisfy the release of the student from TIDEWATCH at the time of pick up.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The mission of Riverview Charter School's Student Council is to provide students with leadership opportunities that emphasize ethics and integrity, encourage school spirit within and among classes, serve as a liaison between students and faculty, and enhance the quality of education by involving the student body in activities, athletics and programs that build citizenship, encourage self-esteem and serve both the local and global community.

Riverview Charter School Council members will learn lifelong skills such as public speaking, networking and organization.

Behavioral and Academic Expectations:

Students who wish to run for office must have a minimum of B average overall (for ALL classes including Specials for the previous Trimester) and must submit two letters of recommendation to the Council Advisors from adults who are not their Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of the candidate.

** Third Trimester grades will be used in determining eligibility for participation during the Fall.*

Riverview Charter School Student Council Members are expected to attend all meetings. Three missed meetings will result in removal from the Council. If a student has an excused absence from the whole day of school, the meeting absence will be waived.

Student Council Members will have no incidents of In-School or Out-of-School suspension and failure to meet these behavioral expectations will result in immediate dismissal from the Council.

Student Council Members will abide by all meeting rules and will treat all members of Council with respect. Persistent failure to do so will result in disciplinary action and possible removal from the Council upon the recommendation of the Council Advisors and at the discretion of the Director.

Student Council Members will conduct themselves on campus and during school events in accordance with school policy and failure to do so will result in disciplinary action and possible removal from the Council upon the recommendation of the Council Advisors and at the discretion of the Director.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

The purpose of National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate the desire to render service, to promote leadership, to develop character, and to encourage citizenship in the students of Riverview Charter School.

The Riverview Charter School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society shall be under the sponsorship and supervision of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), 1904 Association Drive, Reston, VA 20191-1537, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit association.

Membership in the National Junior Honor Society is an honor, and earned by students through the demonstration of exceptional leadership, scholarship, character, service and citizenship. Selection for membership is by application and through a majority vote of the Faculty Council each April.

A National Junior Honor Society member who transfers from another school and brings a letter from the former principal or chapter adviser to the new school adviser shall be accepted automatically as a member in the new school's chapter. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership. Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

Additional information about NJHS, including chapter bylaws, can be found on the school's website at www.RiverviewCharterSchool.org

STUDENT ATHLETICS

Riverview Athletic Mission is to nurture the whole child by supporting the health and well-being of each of its students through athletic participation and distinction. Student athletes learn to extend Riverview's Core Values and strive for excellence beyond the school day as they develop and grow their talents by, being disciplined through high-standards, cooperating with their teammates in order to reach a common goal, persevering through challenges, and by demonstrating respect and empathy towards others. Student athletes strive both on and off the field to represent their school with pride, dignity and solidarity.

Student Athletics

Under SC state law, charter school students may participate in athletic programs at their zoned public school if the selected sport is not offered at the charter school they are attending. Students seeking to take advantage of this opportunity must complete a waiver (provided by BCSD) which also requires the signature of the charter school Director. Waiver forms can be left in the Front Office for Ms. Thomas' for review and signature, and picked up the following day. Please allow at least 24 hours for waiver forms to be reviewed and completed.

General:

All athletes must meet all eligibility requirements;

All athletes must have permission to participate by parent or guardian;

All athletes must have a current medical examination by a physician on file at the school. An exam is considered current for a period of one year from the date of the exam;

All athletes must abide by the training and participation rules established by the coach(es);

Eligibility:

All students currently enrolled in 6th, 7th and 8th grade are eligible to participate in Riverview athletics, in so far as they meet all of the eligibility requirements listed below.

Academic Eligibility:

Fall Athletics:

In order to try-out for a Fall sports team, 7th and 8th graders must have a 78 average or better in each of their four (4) core content classes and cannot have a 69 or below in any class for the third trimester of the previous year. 6th grade students are not required to meet this criteria for Fall sports since they do not receive grades during their 5th grade year.

Winter and Spring Athletics:

In order to try out for a Winter and/or Spring sports team, all students must submit a completed Progress Report to the Athletic Director prior to the first day of try-outs. In order to try-out, a student's

progress report must reflect a 78 average or better in each of their four (4) core content classes and cannot have a 69 or below in any class. Progress Report forms will be available from the Athletic Director.

Academic Progress Reports during the season:

The week before the first competition and every two weeks thereafter, the Athletic Director shall conduct an academic grade check of all athletes. If a student has a 77 or lower in any of their four (4) core content class and/or a 69 or lower in any class, they will be placed on Academic Probation. (See Academic Probation below.)

Academic probation:

Student athletes will be on probation until such time as the next grade check (conducted every two weeks during the season) establishes that they have 78 average or better in each of their four (4) core content classes and that all of their grades are a 70 or better.

Students on academic probation may practice with their team but may not participate in any competitions.

Student Discipline:

It is the philosophy of Riverview Charter School that all athletes are students first. If students cannot adhere to the school's discipline code in the academic environment, he/she cannot participate in school athletics without consequences. Referrals to the administrative Leadership Team that results in disciplinary consequences will, at a minimum, be considered by Coaches as a part of try-outs and/or make a student athlete ineligible to participate in the next scheduled competition. Depending on the circumstance, additional consequences may include, but are not limited to: not being selected to participate on a team, suspension or dismissal from a team, loss of sports award or recognition as a team member, forfeiture of a leadership role on the team or other penalties at the discretion of the school Director upon recommendation by the Athletic Director.

Athletes who are suspended in or out of school more than once during an athletic season will be immediately dismissed from the team.

Try-Outs

Each sports team will be given 3 days for try-outs, and students must participate all 3 days except with prior permission from the Athletic Director due to significant and extenuating circumstances. Coaches will select team members based on skill, attitude and leadership, and a Coach's decision is final. It is at the Coach's discretion as how many student athletes make up a given team and whether cuts need to be made. Teams will be selected through private and individual conversations with the Coach at the end of the last day of try-outs. Selection to a team in a prior year does not guarantee placement on the team in subsequent years.

If there is a conflict with students playing another sport for Riverview, try-outs will be held once that season has ended. This ensures all student athletes try-out at the same time and are given an equal opportunity to make the team.

Dressing Up On Game Days

Student athletes may dress up on game days. Student athletes should wear their “Sunday Best”, ensuring that their attire meets with the school’s dress code and represents Riverview at all times. If a student violates the game day attire guidelines, this privilege will be revoked.

Code of Conduct

Students participating in a team sport are representing the School, their families, and the community. Participation in school athletics is a privilege, not an entitlement, and players who violate school rules, which are in effect during the time the athlete is participating in practice, play or travel, he/she will face disciplinary action.

Additionally, if a student-athlete is ejected from a game/meet, they must meet with the Coach and Athletic Director the next day.

Consequences for violating school rules and/or being ejected from a game/meet will, at a minimum, be suspension from the next scheduled game/meet. Depending on the circumstance, additional consequences may include, but are not limited to: suspension or dismissal from the team, loss of sports award or recognition as a team member, forfeiture of a leadership role on the team or other penalties at the discretion of the school Director upon recommendation by the Athletic Director.

Athletic Code of Ethics:

- Officials, coaches, opponents and teammates will be treated with respect at all times, on and off the field;
- Victory will be accepted modestly, defeat gracefully and a Riverview athlete never quits;
- Athletes will, at all times, control his/her emotions and never argue with an official;
- Decisions will be accepted as they are made and athletes will abide by them;
- Athletes will keep physically and mentally fit and agree to observe all training rules set by his/her Coach;
- Athlete will never conduct him/herself in a manner unbecoming of a gentleman or lady;
- Riverview athletes will never use profanity, whether in school, at games or at practice;
- No athlete will instigate or willfully involve him/herself in a fight with the opposing team.

Concussions:

Student athletes and their parents will be required to review and sign a Student-Athlete Concussion Acknowledgement Statement prior to each season.

FUNDRAISING

Our goal is for fundraising to be a seamless, well-planned, strategic initiative that will minimize the investment of human resources and maximize the benefits to our students and school.

RIVERVIEW DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The development of human and fiscal resources is an important part of maintaining the health of Riverview Charter School. Because our funding is limited, we must have a comprehensive plan for securing, coordinating, and utilizing resources from within and beyond our immediate school community. An integral part of the mission of Riverview is family involvement, and we know that individuals who contribute to an organization are more likely to feel a sense of ownership for that organization than individuals who do not. The goal of the Development Committee is to design a comprehensive development program that ensures a well-planned, manageable, and school-friendly approach to fundraising. This would include the development of specific yearly fundraising goals and a fundraising/event calendar, a process that will be submitted by the Development Chair for approval by the Board in May for the following school year. The Development Committee, Board, and Riverview's Director will give assistance, with input from all constituency groups within Riverview's community. Fundraisers shall be conducted in a respectful manner and without pressure to any party involved.

Fundraising efforts will fall into one of the following categories (additional categories may be added as needed):

- Major school fundraisers and community events include those that are recognized as yearly fundraisers that will be reviewed annually by the Fund Development Committee and examined for their overall success and time commitment. They will be scheduled by the Fund Development Chair with the Director preferably before the beginning of the new school year and included in the Riverview Calendar of Fundraisers and Events. Five percent (5%) of the net earnings resulting from all major fundraisers will be set aside to support a school-wide "grant fund" to support classroom initiatives which exemplify the school's vision, mission and core values. The Director, in collaboration with the Fund Development Chair, is responsible for establishing a procedure for applying for and fulfillment of grant requests by members of the faculty and staff.
- Project driven fundraisers are created and implemented to benefit particular projects/needs that arise during the school year, and are usually created by the PTO or a member of Riverview faculty and/or staff. The requester of the fundraiser must submit a Fundraiser Request (see below) for approval prior to the event, and play an integral role in the development and execution of the fundraiser. 'Project Driven' fundraisers will be reviewed upon completion and the requester will make a recommendation to add the fundraiser to the Fundraiser Calendar if appropriate. Fundraisers which are intended to raise a figure under \$1,500.00 may be approved by the Director. The Fund Development Chairperson will be notified of all approved projects.
- Classroom Fundraisers are small fundraisers conducted by a class at a community building event. The event must be free to attend, but organizers may have items such as baked goods, popcorn or drinks available for sale at the event. Money raised at the event may be used towards classroom needs. Fundraisers which are intended to raise a figure under \$1,500 may be approved by the Director. The Fund Development Chairperson will be notified of all approved projects.
- '3rd Party' Fundraisers are fundraisers that an individual or group would like to do on behalf of Riverview. Riverview appreciates and welcomes fundraisers that are created and managed by

outside interests. A Fundraiser Request (see below) must be made to the Fund Development Chair to review for approval prior to the event.

Fundraiser Request/Approval Process

Requests for Fundraisers are reviewed by the school's Director, with input from the Development Committee. The Fund Development Chair and Fund Development Committee members are available to assist in the planning of additional fundraisers. A Fundraiser Request to the Director can be submitted via email, and must include the following information (additional information may be required):

- Contact name/phone number
- Date of fundraiser – time period that it covers
- Name/Description of fundraiser
- What the funds are being raised for
- Who is involved in the fundraiser (Riverview staff, grade levels, parents, businesses, etc.)
- Fundraising goal
- The amount you expect to make (it may take several fundraisers to reach the goal)
- Initial investment (you have to buy the lemonade, ice and cups before you can sell it), and how you plan to cover it; what will happen if you don't 'cover' the costs
- Any additional info that you feel would be helpful

Consideration of additions to the fundraising calendar will include the following:

- Does the activity compete with major school fundraisers and/or The Riverview Fund?
- Does the time/date overly tax the community's resources?
- Has the fundraiser been well planned?
- Is the fundraiser consistent with the school's mission?

Requests will be acknowledged immediately, and approval/disapproval will be granted within one (1) week in most cases. Board approval will be required for fundraisers that are expected to raise over \$1,500. In these cases, approval may take an additional three (3) weeks. The Director reserves the right to seek Board approval on any fundraiser in question.

Issues/Concerns

Any issues or concerns raised in the process of operating a fundraiser must immediately be reported to the chairs of the Fund Development and Finance Committees for escalation to the Riverview Board of Directors as needed. Riverview's Director, Chair of the Board, and members of the Executive Committee will handle any action resulting from such escalations jointly.

Fundraiser restrictions

Riverview's Board has identified traditional school fundraisers – such as candy and wrapping paper sales – as options that we prefer not to pursue. Fundraisers should be well planned and executed, as unique as possible, and in keeping with Riverview's mission.

Faculty & Staff

It is the responsibility of the Fund Development Chair to work with Riverview's Director to make sure that the faculty and staff are informed about major school fundraisers and events.

THE ANNUAL FUND

The school's primary fundraising focus is *The Annual Fund*, which kicks-off in the fall of each school year. Funds raised for this yearly endeavor are unrestricted, meaning they can be used towards any Riverview expenses during the current school year.

- The Riverview Fund committee will be formed in the spring for the following school year, and the Riverview Fund goals and calendar will be submitted to the Board for approval in May.
- Direct marketing of the Riverview Fund to the Riverview Community will run approximately 6 weeks in the fall, and progress will be tracked and reported to the Riverview community throughout the school year.
- Contributions will be accepted via check, cash, credit card or PayPal. Additional methods will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Riverview will conduct the Riverview Fund in a professional and tasteful manner. As with any fundraiser, no person or business will be pressured to give to the Riverview Fund.
- The Riverview Fund marketing will target Riverview families, faculty and staff. Community members, businesses and extended family of Riverview families will also be asked to contribute in an appropriate and respectful manner.
- The Fund Development Chair will meet with Riverview faculty and staff at least once before the beginning of the Riverview Fund to discuss its details. Riverview asks that faculty and staff familiarize themselves with the Riverview Fund so that they can answer questions that may arise from the Riverview community.

FUNDRAISING OUTSIDE THE RIVERVIEW COMMUNITY

Part of Riverview's mission is engaged citizenship, therefore Riverview may choose to support a project that is being facilitated by an organization from the greater community. These projects will be submitted to the Fund Development Chair for review and recommendation, who will then submit it to the Board of Directors for approval. Projects should meet the following criteria:

- The project must be in alignment with Riverview's mission
- The organization must have a pre-existing relationship with Riverview; the Committee will review requests for new partnerships based on benefits to the school community
- The project will be simple and not overtax the school community
- The project will have an educational component

Nonprofit status/tax exempt status

Riverview Charter School is a non-profit corporation with tax exempt status. Riverview is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Effective date of exemption March 20, 2008.

Donor designated restrictions

Donor designated restrictions on contributions will be honored whenever possible. It is the goal that significant donations are broad based to benefit Riverview as a whole, and gifts that fall outside of these parameters are subject to review by the Board.

Acknowledgement of donations

Acknowledgement of donations for tax purposes will be issued to donors within the giving year. If the donor receives anything in exchange for their donation, such as a dinner or event admission, the tax receipt shall clearly state what portion of the donation is above and beyond what was received.

Donor Privacy Policy

Any information supplied to Riverview by donors will be used solely to fulfill their donation and shall not be shared for any reason unless permission is granted by the donor to share this information. All requests to remain anonymous shall be honored. Donors who supply Riverview with their address/ phone/email information may be contacted periodically for solicitation purposes and/or with information regarding upcoming events. Requests will be honored to remove one's name from the contact list.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

DRESS CODE (UNIFORM POLICY)

Purpose

The Riverview Board of Directors believes that a safe and disciplined learning environment is a requirement of a high performing school. The way a student dresses can have a direct impact upon his/ her health, safety, attitude and performance, and upon the health, safety, attitude and performance of others. In order to maintain a safe, respectful, positive and productive educational environment, Riverview has adopted and will enforce the following Dress Code.

Should a circumstance arise that is not specifically delineated within this policy, the school Director (or designee) shall consider the Purpose of this policy and decide the best course of enforcement accordingly. Decisions made by the school Director related to enforcement of the school Dress Code are final.

Appearance

In addition to being required to wear school uniforms, all students are to be groomed and dressed appropriately for school and school activities. A student's dress and/or appearance shall:

- Support, not disrupt, the learning environment;
- Constitute no threat to health or safety;
- Be tasteful and unable to be construed as provocative or obscene;
- Reflect practices of good hygiene and cleanliness.

Good judgment in considering issues such as age, developmental stages, and body type are expected of all students, parents, and guardians in the selection of school attire and appearance. The manner of a student's wear of the school uniform shall be neat, clean, properly fitted, age-appropriate and suitable for the learning environment.

TOPS: Shirts, Sweaters, and Sweatshirts

- Tops must have collars and be solid white, baby blue (not royal blue or aqua), light yellow (not gold), or navy. Tops may have white collars.
- Mock turtlenecks and turtlenecks in the above colors are acceptable.
- Shirts may have brand logos or monograms no larger than 1½ inches by 1½ inches. Shirts may also have the approved Riverview or RCS logo.
- Shirts may not exceed one size larger or smaller than appropriate as determined by the school director.
- It is recommended that shirts be tucked in but is not required. Shirts that are untucked must have finished edges and be no more than 6 inches below the waist.
- White, baby blue, light yellow or navy blue t-shirts (long or short sleeves) may be worn under uniform shirts.
- Students may wear ANY sweatshirt sold by the PTO OR plain, un-hooded sweaters or sweatshirts over school uniforms. Sweaters and sweatshirts not sold by the school may be white, baby blue, light yellow or navy.

BOTTOMS: Pants, Skirts, Skorts, Jumpers, Capri Length Pants, and Shorts

- Bottoms must be solid khaki (not olive, brown) or navy (not black).
- Jeans are not permitted, however the school Director may make exceptions for special days.
- Bottoms must be free of graphics and embroidery and cannot be ripped.
- Cargo-style pants or shorts are permitted.
- Students may wear solid jumpers, shorts, skirts and skorts that are khaki or navy and are no shorter than 3 inches above the top of the knee when standing.
- Solid "polo style" dresses with collars in navy, baby blue or light yellow are also permitted and should be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee when standing.
- Girls may wear "leggings" or tights of any color or pattern under a standard uniform skirt or dress.
- Clothing may not exceed one size larger or smaller than appropriate as determined by the school director. Baggy or sagging pants or shorts are not permitted. "Low rise" clothing is not permitted. Pants, shorts, and skirts must be worn at the natural waistline.
- Belt buckles must not be oversized, computerized or have any writing that is considered offensive.

OUTERWEAR: Coats and Jackets

- Outerwear may not be worn inside the school building during the school day.
- Outerwear may be worn during a class change if the student is exiting the building.

- Outerwear may be worn to school and placed in the student's locker. If a locker is not available, it may be hung in the classroom or other location designated by the school director and/or the classroom teacher.
- The school director and/or the classroom teacher may make an exception if the building/classroom is unusually cold.

FOOTWEAR: Shoes, Sneakers, and Boots

- Footwear must be worn at all times, and, as needed, shoes shall conform to special requirements, e.g., P.E. classes, ROTC, science labs, etc.
- Shoes are required to have back straps and closed toes. They should be appropriate and safe for all school activities. Athletic shoes are preferred.
- Laces on shoes or sneakers must be tied.
- Crocs are permitted if they have a closed toe and if the back strap is worn appropriately. Flip flops, slippers and wheelies (wheels attached to sneakers) are not permitted.
- Heels should be no higher than ½ inch.

ACCESSORIES

- Students may not wear pendants or medallions.
- Any adornment that could be perceived as, or used as, a weapon such as chains, spikes, etc. is not permitted.
- Gang-related clothing, accessories, symbols or intimidating items of dress, as identified by local law enforcement agencies, are not permitted.
- Head coverings of any kind, including but not limited to, hats, caps, bandanas, curlers, masks, visors, kerchiefs, athletic sweatbands, earmuffs, sunglasses or hoods are not permitted. Head coverings shall not be worn, carried, hung on belts or around the neck or kept in classrooms during regular school hours.
- Visible piercings must be limited to the ears and no more than two earrings per ear may be worn at any time.

OTHER UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

- Students are expected to be dressed according to the uniform standards at all times when school is in session.
- Students who are taking classes that require a special dress code, such as JROTC or career and technical education internships, may wear that uniform to other classes.
- Students who are participating in athletics at another school may wear that team's uniform top with a Riverview uniform bottom on game days.
- The Director or designee may make exceptions to the uniform policy for special events, such as Picture Day, and may allow a different standard for athletic teams or other school clubs or activities.

SCHOOL WIDE UNIFORM EXCEPTIONS

- Each Tuesday shall be known as "T-shirt Tuesday" and students will be allowed to wear any Riverview t-shirt (including those created for fundraising events, at TIDEWATCH, by individual

classes, etc.) with navy or khaki bottoms. Shirts may not exceed one size larger or smaller than appropriate as determined by the school director. It is recommended that shirts be tucked in but is not required. Shirts that are untucked must have finished edges and be no more than 6 inches below the waist.

- One Friday a month will be known as “Uniform-Free Friday”. Students may pay \$5 to dress out of uniform. The money raised on “Uniform-Free Friday” will be in place of monies generated from traditional school-wide fundraisers such as wrapping paper sales, candy bar sales, etc.

ATTIRE FOR “UNIFORM FREE FRIDAY”

- Students may wear any color jeans (minimal flare acceptable), capris, shorts, skirts, or skorts. Students may not wear pendants or medallions.
- Bottoms must be tasteful and follow all uniform code criteria (such as appropriate length, not frayed or torn, clean, correct size, free of chains, not baggy or sagging, etc.). “Low rise” clothing is not permitted. Bottoms must be worn at the natural waistline.
- Clothing may not exceed one size larger or smaller than the child and length may not exceed 3 inches above the knee
- Tops must have sleeves and cover the chest and back.
- Tops must be devoid of advertising, may not be offensive (no profanity, religious symbols or writing, sexual innuendoes, or offensive pictures/symbols).
- Shoes and outerwear will follow the same criteria as uniform policy.

All questionable attire will be evaluated by the school Director or designee and students deemed inappropriate in attire will need to change to appropriate attire before returning to class.

ATTIRE FOR PE CLASS (MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY)

During physical education classes, middle school students (grades 6-8) will be allowed to change from their school attire, into something that is more comfortable and conducive to participating in physical education. The clothing that student’s change into must meet school standards and requirements that are listed below.

TOPS:

- Student’s shirts must be school appropriate and cover the student’s mid-section and upper arms completely. (Tank tops are not allowed.)
- Shirts shall not be low cut, nor shall they be sheer in nature.

BOTTOMS:

- Students may wear athletic shorts that are no shorter than 3 inches above the top of the knee when standing.
- If athletic shorts are shorter than 3 inches above the top of the knee when standing, then “biker” shorts or leggings are required to be worn underneath.
- “Low rise”, baggy or sagging pants or shorts are not permitted. Pants, or shorts must be worn at the natural waistline.

SHOES:

- Students should wear shoes that are athletic in nature with non-marking soles.
- Shoes with laces and velcro shall be tied and latched at all times.

- Shoes are required to have back straps and closed toes. They should be appropriate and safe for all school activities.

Accessories:

- Students shall not wear jewelry to PE class other than stud earrings.
- Jewelry that is worn for religious or health related reasons is acceptable.

Winter Attire:

- Students may wear clothing that will keep them warm when the weather is cold.
- Winter PE clothing must follow the same guidelines as normal PE clothing.
- Pants, sweatshirts, long sleeve shirts, jackets, hats, gloves, scarves, and earmuffs are acceptable.

Changing Procedure:

Arrive:

- Students will be given a 5 minute window to change from their school attire, into their PE attire at the beginning of each PE class.
- Students who are late (to PE or for dismissal from PE to their next class) due to changing clothes more than three times in an academic year will no longer be permitted to change for PE.

Dismissal:

- Students will be given 5 minutes to change from their PE clothes into their school attire at the end of each PE period.
- Once students are finished changing in the bathroom, they should then return to the gymnasium for dismissal to their next class. ***Students may not dismiss themselves from the restroom to their next class.***

ENFORCEMENT

- Final judgment of acceptable attire and personal appearance is at the discretion of the Leadership Team.
- A first offense for failure to meet the uniform requirement shall result in a verbal warning.
- Upon a second offense for failure to meet the uniform requirement shall result in a call and/or note home to the Parents.
- Upon all additional offenses for failure to meet the PE uniform requirement the student shall no longer be allowed to change clothes for PE.

Reasonable consideration shall be made for those students who, because of a sincerely held religious belief or medical reason, request a waiver of a particular guideline for dress or appearance. The waiver request shall be in writing from the Parent or Guardian and approved by the Director and/or Director's designee on an annual basis. In considering a waiver request, the Director and/or Director's designee has the right to request additional documentation from medical officials and/or religious leaders.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

(SEE APPENDICES FOR BEHAVIOR & CONSEQUENCES CHARTS)

The purpose of Riverview Charter School's discipline policy is to ensure a learning environment that respects and protects the health, safety, wellbeing, and learning of all students.

Riverview expects students to conduct themselves in an orderly, courteous, dignified and respectful manner. This expectation applies to a student's actions toward other students and teachers, their language, their dress, and their manners. We believe self-discipline is an interpersonal goal of education. Students have a responsibility to know and respect Riverview's policies, rules, and regulations. Violations of such policies, rules, and regulations will result in a disciplinary consequence(s).

Riverview's Discipline Policy including the Behavior Violations Chart (in the Appendix of this Handbook) will apply to every student attending Riverview Charter School whether in a classroom, on school grounds, on a school bus, at a school bus stop, at a school-sponsored program or at a function (on or off school grounds) where the School is responsible for the student(s).

Tier 1: Minor Offenses

Tier 1 Minor Offenses include any student behavior that impedes orderly classroom procedures, instructional delivery, learning engagements, and/or the orderly operation of the school. In addition, minor offenses include behaviors contrary to Riverview's Core Values, the frequency or seriousness of which disturbs the learning of others in the classroom or school.

Tier 1 Minor Offenses that will be addressed by the Teacher or other Staff Members through Classroom Behavior Management Systems include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Excessive talking, blurting out, or excessive noise
- Lack of kindness, courtesy, or respect toward a peer or adult
- Teasing
- Horseplay
- Not following directions
- Unprepared for class/incomplete assignments
- Off task behaviors
- Pushing/hitting/kicking that does not cause harm
- Dishonesty (not inclusive of Academic Dishonesty which is a Tier II offense)
- Lack of body control
- Running in the halls
- Interrupting

Possible consequences a Staff Member may implement in response to isolated Tier 1 Minor Offenses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Redirecting the student
- Non-verbal warnings (proximity--standing closer so the student knows the Staff Member is aware of the behavior, eye contact, behavior agreements, etc.)

- Verbal warnings
- Teacher/student conference
- “Clip change” to desired outcome (body control, voice control, etc.)
- Alternate seating arrangement
- Letter of apology / verbal apology
- “Time-out” in classroom (time out can include time for drawn/written reflection -- reflection will be sent home with a note from Teacher)
- “Time-out” out of the classroom
- Parent contact (email, phone call, notes, etc.)
- Loss of privilege (e.g., No participation in: cooperative groups, King of the Grounds, talking during lunch, Friday free time, lunch detention, etc.)
- Detention

If a behavior becomes repetitive, it is no longer considered an isolated offense, but a pattern of behavior. In instances where there is a pattern of behavior, Staff Members may implement one (or more) of the following additional consequences prior to referring the student to the Leadership Team:

- Conference) between the Teacher and Parent
- Differentiated behavior plan to specifically meet individual student needs (daily behavior plan or agenda book check-in)
- Recommend the Parent shadow the child for a day or more to observe behavior
- Recommend the student work with the counselor on proactive behavior strategies
- Recommend an intervention team conference

Upon recommendation from a Staff Member, any Leadership Team Member may reclassify a Tier 1 Minor Offense as a Tier 2 Major Offense if there is a pattern of behavior with minimal or inconsistent improvement.

The school’s Staff and/or Leadership Team shall consider extenuating, mitigating or aggravating circumstances that may exist in a particular case of misconduct when determining an appropriate consequence.

Tier 2: Major Offenses

Tier 2 Major Offenses include circumstances that may endanger the health, safety, or well being of others or of the student committing the offense. In some instances, Major Offenses may overlap certain Criminal Offenses, justifying both school consequences and court proceedings.

Tier 2 Major Offenses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Repetitive minor offenses that severely disrupt learning
- Dishonesty (including lying, Academic Dishonesty, and cheating)
- Bullying/ Harassment (including sexual harassment) / Intimidation
- Threats against others (not inclusive of threats to kill or inflict bodily harm which are a Tier III offense)

- Aggressive behavior
- Fighting
- Profanity/ Vulgarity/ Abusive language
- Vandalism
- Stealing
- Defiance/ Aggravated Disrespect/ Refusal to obey Staff Members
- Evading adults/hiding or leaving a classroom (or school grounds) without permission
- Using objects in a manner that (could) result in harm to others (throwing, kicking, etc.)
- Provoking, instigating, and/or coercing others to engage in Disruptive Conduct

Possible consequences in response to Tier 2 Major Offenses may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Conference or Detention with a Leadership Team member
- In-School Suspension (1/2 - 2 days)
- Out of School Suspension (1 - 10 days)
- Expulsion

The school's Staff and/or Leadership Team shall consider extenuating, mitigating or aggravating circumstances that may exist in a particular case of misconduct when determining an appropriate consequence.

Tier 3 - Criminal Conduct

Tier 3 Criminal Conduct includes actions that students engage in which result in violence to themselves or to another's person or property or which pose a direct and serious threat to the safety of themselves or others in the school. These activities usually require administrative actions that result in the immediate removal of the student from the school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the Board of Directors.

Examples of Criminal Conduct include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Possession, distribution, or use of tobacco, alcohol or a controlled substance (drugs, narcotics or poison)
- Assault and Battery
- Extortion
- Intentionally setting off fire alarms falsely
- Arson
- Bomb threat
- Possession, use or transfer of a weapon, firecracker or other explosive device
- Sexual Offenses
- Vandalism (major)
- Threatening to take the life or inflict bodily harm upon a student, Staff Member or a member of their immediate family

Possible consequences in response to Criminal Conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Out of School Suspension
- Expulsion
- Restitution of property damages

The school's Staff and/or Leadership Team shall consider extenuating, mitigating or aggravating circumstances that may exist in a particular case of misconduct when determining an appropriate consequence.

Expulsion

Expulsion is the removal of a student from the school for the remainder of the school year. Upon expulsion, a student cannot attend school or be on school grounds, attend any school-related event or activity – on or off campus – and cannot ride the school's buses.

A student may be expelled for committing the violations listed in the Family Handbook, for the commission of any crime, gross immorality, gross misbehavior, persistent disobedience, the violation of any other written rules established by the Board or the State Board of Education, if the presence of the student is deemed to be detrimental to the best interests of the school, and as provided for by law.

Expulsion Procedures

If expulsion procedures are initiated, the parent/guardian of the student will be notified in writing of the offense(s) which the student is accused of committing and of the time and place of a hearing before a panel of three Hearing Officers designated by the Board. The student may be suspended during the time of the expulsion proceedings.

The hearing will take place within ten (10) days of the date of the written notification and a decision by the Hearing Officers will be made within ten (10) days of the hearing. The decision, based on a majority vote of the Hearing Officers, will be provided to the parent/guardian in writing. At the hearing, the parent/guardian shall have the right to legal counsel and to all other regular legal rights, including the right to question witness statements and any witnesses who give testimony during the hearing. The Hearing Officers have the right to question the student and witnesses as well. All hearings will be recorded.

If the Hearing Officers determine that grounds for expulsion exist, they may expel the student for the remainder of the school year or, in their sole discretion, give punishment other than expulsion, including, but not limited to, suspension or probation. If the Hearing Officers determine that grounds for expulsion do not exist, all absences resulting from any related suspension may be excused, if deemed appropriate by the Hearing Officers in their sole discretion, and the student's record will reflect the Hearing Officer's decision. The student will be allowed to make up missed work, as deemed appropriate by the Hearing Officers in their sole discretion.

When the hearing described above is held before Hearing Officers, the Hearing Officers' decision may be appealed to the Board if written notice of intent to appeal is provided to the Director within five (5) days of receipt of the decision. The written notice of intent must contain the basis of the appeal, such as newly discovered evidence or allegations of denial of due process. The Board will consider the appeal within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice of appeal and a decision will be made within five (5) days of the appeal hearing. An appeal will typically be limited to the Board's consideration of the established record, which will consist of the tape of the hearing, any documentary evidence presented by any party, the decision letter, and the appealing party's written notice of appeal. In its sole discretion, the Board may grant a hearing to receive new testimony and evidence.

The Board may uphold, reverse, or alter the decision of the Hearing Officers. If the Board reverses a decision to expel the student, all absences from any suspension related to the expulsion will be excused, the student will be allowed to make up missed work, and the student's record will be cleared. Should the majority of the board not pass a motion to reverse or alter the Hearing Officers' decision, the original decision is upheld.

The decision of the Board may be appealed to the proper court.

Suspension Procedures

When a student is suspended from school, a Leadership Team member shall speak with the parents or legal guardian of the pupil as well as notify them, in writing, of the reason and terms for suspension. Should the parents or legal guardians request an additional conference after the initial conversation, the conference shall be set within three days of the date of the suspension. Parents or legal guardian may appeal out of school suspensions to the Director.

Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying

Riverview Charter School is committed to each student's success in learning within a caring, responsive, and safe environment that is free of discrimination, violence, and bullying. Our school works to ensure that all students have the opportunity and support to develop to their fullest potential and share a personal and meaningful bond with people in the school community.

Harassment, intimidation or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe environment.

Harassment, intimidation or bullying is prohibited

RCS prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying in all classrooms, on school premises, on school buses or other school-related vehicles, at official school bus stops, at a school-sponsored activities or events, whether or not held on school premises, or at any other programs or functions where the school is responsible for the child.

Definition of harassment, intimidation or bullying

Harassment, intimidation or bullying is defined as a gesture, electronic communication, or a written, verbal, physical or sexual act reasonably perceived to have the effect of:

- harming a student physically or emotionally or damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of personal harm or property damage; or
- insulting or demeaning a student or group of students causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Reporting harassment, intimidation or bullying

Any student who believes that harassment, intimidation or bullying has occurred in violation of this policy should report the situation to a school staff member. If the student has previously reported the harassment, intimidation or bullying to the school staff member, but the misconduct continues, the student should report the situation to the Director (or his/her designee).

All other members of the community, including students, parents/legal guardians, volunteers and visitors, are encouraged to report any act that may be a violation of this policy. While submission of a written report is not required, the reporting party is encouraged to submit a written report. Oral reports also will be considered official reports; however, the Director (or his/her designee) should document the oral report for the school's records. Reports may be made anonymously, but formal disciplinary action must not be based solely on the basis of anonymous reports. It is understood that an anonymous report or delayed report limits the investigation process. If requested, the identity of the victim will be protected to the extent allowed by law.

Retaliation

RCS prohibits reprisal or retaliation against a person who reports an act of harassment, intimidation or bullying.

Investigation

The Director (or his/her designee) is responsible for determining whether an alleged act constitutes a violation of this policy. The Director (or his/her designee) will conduct a prompt investigation of the alleged incident. A record of each investigation regarding allegations of harassment, intimidation or bullying will be maintained at the school.

Consequences

Consequences for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation or bullying will be varied and graded according to the age, developmental and maturity levels of the parties involved, degrees of harm, surrounding circumstances, nature and severity of the behaviors, incidences of past or continuing patterns of behavior, relationships between the parties involved, context in which the alleged incidents occurred and according to the school's code of conduct.

Whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of this policy requires a determination based on all of the facts and surrounding circumstances. An appropriate consequence will be determined after meaningful consideration of these factors.

False accusations

RCS prohibits any person from falsely accusing another as a means of harassment, intimidation or bullying. The consequences and appropriate remedial action for a student found to have falsely accused another as a means of harassment, intimidation or bullying may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion.

STUDENT CONCERNS, COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Riverview Charter School provides a grievance procedure as a formal method for the resolution of any grievances concerning the treatment of students by RCS personnel. These grievances may arise from allegations of violations of student legal rights or school policy. In addition, the Board recognizes that there may be conditions that RCS could improve, and that students should have some means by which they can effectively express their concerns. RCS will resolve student complaints and grievances through orderly processes and at the lowest possible level.

A teacher will provide any student or parent the opportunity to discuss a decision or situation that the student considers unjust or unfair. If the incident remains unresolved, the student, parent or teacher may bring the matter to the school Director or his/her designee for consideration and action.

Title IX complaints: Students who believe that they have been discriminated against on the basis of their gender have the right to appeal to the school Director. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the school Director, he/she may appeal to the Board.

Section 504 complaints: Students who believe that they have been discriminated against on the basis of their disabling condition have the right to appeal to the school Director. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the school Director, he/she may appeal to the Board. The school Director will schedule appeals to the Board.

USE OF CELL PHONES /IPODS

Students are discouraged from bringing their cell phone/iPod to school however if they do, these ***devices must out of sight at all times – including during arrival, dismissal and Tidewatch – and must be checked in with a student’s homeroom teacher or into the Front Office each day upon arriving to school.*** Cell phones/iPods can be picked up (by the student) at the end of each day but must remain out of sight while students are on campus.

Student devices will be confiscated if they are visible while students are on campus. The first time a cell phone/iPod is confiscated it will be returned to the student’s parent after one week or upon payment of a fine of \$20. The second time a student’s phone is confiscated it will be confiscated for the remainder of the school year. Students bring these devices to school at their own risk. Riverview, its faculty and staff are NOT responsible for any damaged, missing, or stolen cell phones or iPods.

Should a student need to make a phone call while at school, s/he must receive permission from a Riverview staff member and will be directed by Faculty/Staff to use an appropriate school landline.

Parents who need to contact a student while s/he is at school should call the Front Office. Students will not be allowed to answer calls or check messages on a cell phone during the school day.

INTERNET SAFETY

Introduction

It is the policy of Riverview Charter School to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children’s Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or “Internet filters”) shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information. Specifically, as required by the Children’s Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Riverview Charter School online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by the Children’s Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called ‘hacking,’ and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Riverview Charter School staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children’s Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children’s Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of Technology Coordinator or designated representatives.

The Technology Coordinator or designated representatives will provide age- appropriate training for students who use the Riverview Charter School’s Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote the Riverview Charter School’s commitment to:

- a. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the Internet Safety Policy;
- b. Student safety with regard to:

- i. safety on the Internet;
 - ii. appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
 - iii. cyberbullying awareness and response.
- c. Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children’s Internet Protection Act (“CIPA”).

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the District's acceptable use policies.

Adoption

This Internet Safety Policy is reviewed annually and updated as needed.

TECHNOLOGY USE POLICY

Our faculty, staff and students have access to a variety of technological resources that assist in providing an enriched educational and teaching experience. Access to the resources owned by the school imposes certain responsibilities and obligations on those who use these resources. Our Technology Use Policy provides guidelines that govern the efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of these resources. School disciplinary procedures and termination of access to any or all resources may occur if the user violates any of these provisions.

Hardware Usage

All technological resources including, but not limited to, computers, iPads, peripherals, printers, scanners, cameras, laserdiscs, CD-ROM drives, video and audio equipment calculators and photocopy machines are considered extensions of the school’s physical environment. The user assumes the same responsibilities, obligations, and privileges that is expected with use of school property.

Users:

- will not engage in any activity that may cause damage to the school’s equipment or networking system by tampering with pre-existing settings or system configurations, or circumvent school security measures.
- will not engage in any activity that may cause physical damage to the school’s technological resources. Vandalism will result in the immediate termination of access privileges and possible school disciplinary action.
- will not move, disconnect, or connect any equipment.
- will not use the school’s technological resources for personal financial gain and/or profit, commercial use, advertisement, or political lobbying.
- will keep food, drink and dirt away from all equipment.
- will respect an individual’s workspace and not disrupt other activities in progress.

Software Usage

Users:

- will abide by the laws governing the use and distribution of copyrighted software.

- will not copy, move, alter, delete applications, system software and data installed on any RCS computer. Personal files, folders, and e-mail accounts may be exempt.
- will not use personal copies of software on any RCS computer or iPad.
- will not load unauthorized software on any RCS computer, iPad or network or attempt to circumvent or subvert any school security measures.
- will not run or install applications on any RCS computer, iPad or network without written permission from Kevin McGuire, Information Technology Coordinator, or Erica Freeman, Technology Integrator. The Information Technology Coordinator or Technology Integrator will not grant approval unless a clear demonstration of ownership of the software is provided.

Telecommunications Usage

The school's computers and networks have been established for educational purposes: classroom activities, projects and assignments, and professional development. The school's computers and network have not been established as a public access service or a public forum. Students are not permitted access to social networking sites in school. Gaming is also restricted in school. The school has the right to place reasonable restrictions on the material the user may access or post through the system. In addition, students are expected to behave respectfully and responsibly in all Internet postings that occur on-campus or off-campus, and failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

Student Access

Students will have access to the telecommunications services provided by RCS through the classroom, technology carts, or computer labs. Students will have Internet and e-mail access only under a teacher's direct supervision.

Internet Use

Use of the Internet in school means that students abide by all school rules and policies set by the Technology Integrator including respect for other students' work, adhering to appropriate sites and passwords set aside for student use and use of computers only at times when access is approved. We encourage parent-to-parent communication as well as parent-school contact should issues of cyber-bullying occur. We will respond to any off-site behavior that communicates demeaning, hurtful or inappropriate messages about student or adult members of the school if it has an impact on our mission of ensuring a healthy learning community. Respect for the school name and the reputation of everyone is more than a courtesy; it is an expectation that we all share the same standards for public self-expression in a medium that is categorically public, not private.

Personal Security

Users may not:

- Post or reveal personal contact information about themselves or other people, including residential address, telephone number, school name and address, work address, etc.;
- Allow other to use their ID and password to access any telecommunications services provided by the RCS network;

- Use anyone else’s ID and password to access their personal e-mail accounts, files, folders or the RCS network;
- Users should expect only limited privacy for their e-mail accounts and personal files residing on the RCS network. The RCS Information Technology Coordinator and school Director have access to all e-mail accounts, personal files, and files residing on any RCS computer, iPad or network.

System Security

- Users will immediately notify a teacher or the Information Technology Coordinator (Kevin McGuire) or Technology Integrator (Erica Freeman) if they have identified a possible security problem;
- Users will not demonstrate the problem to other students or attempt to find any security problems;
- Users will avoid the inadvertent spread of computer viruses by following the RCS virus protection procedures (if given permission from the Information Technology Coordinator (Kevin McGuire) or Technology Integrator (Erica Freeman) to download software);
- Users will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the RCS network or any other system through the RCS network.

Inappropriate Communications

Users will not use or transmit obscene, profane, rude, inflammatory, or threatening language; will not engage in discriminatory or prejudicial attacks on others; will not send or knowingly receive profane or obscene material; will not harass or annoy another person through e-mail or any other electronic means; will stop sending messages to a person when asked to stop by that person; will not report a message that was sent to them privately without the permission of the person who sent the message.

Inappropriate Access to Material

Users will not use the RCS network to access material that is profane, obscene controversial or that advocates violence or discrimination towards other people and will immediately inform a Teacher or the Information Technology Coordinator (Kevin McGuire) or Technology Integrator (Erica Freeman) if they mistakenly access inappropriate material. Notifying a Teacher will protect the user against a claim of intentional violation of the terms and conditions in this policy.

Liability

Riverview Charter School makes no guarantees for the service it is providing. The school will not be responsible for any damages a user may suffer. This includes, but is not limited to, loss of data, mis-deliveries, non-deliveries, or service interruptions. Riverview Charter School is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the system. Riverview Charter School will not be responsible for any financial obligations arising through unauthorized use of the system.

Social Media Policy for Blogs, Wikis, Podcasts, Digital Images & Video

Definitions are included at the end of this section

Student Responsibilities

Due to the wealth of new social media tools available to students, student products and documents have the potential to reach audiences far beyond the classroom. This translates into a greater level of responsibility and accountability for everyone. Below are guidelines students in the Riverview Charter School will adhere to when using Web 2.0 tools in the classroom.

Social Media Guidelines for Students

- Be aware of what you post online. Social media venues are very public. What you contribute leaves a digital footprint for all to see. Do not post anything you wouldn't want friends, enemies, parents, teachers, or a future employer to see.
- Follow the school's code of conduct when writing online. It is acceptable to disagree with someone else's opinions, however, do it in a respectful way. Make sure that criticism is constructive and not hurtful. What is inappropriate in the classroom is inappropriate online.
- Be safe online. Never give out personal information, including, but not limited to, last names, phone numbers, addresses, exact birthdates, and pictures. Do not share your password with anyone besides your teachers and parents
- Linking to other websites to support your thoughts and ideas is recommended. However, be sure to read the entire article prior to linking to ensure that all information is appropriate for a school setting.
- Do your own work! Do not use other people's "*intellectual property*" without their permission. Be aware that it is a violation of copyright law to copy and paste other's thoughts. It is good practice to hyperlink to your sources.
- Be aware that pictures may also be protected under copyright laws. Verify you have permission to use the image or it is under Creative Commons attribution.
- How you represent yourself online is an extension of yourself. Do not misrepresent yourself by using someone else's identity.
- Blog and wiki posts should be well written. Follow writing conventions including proper grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. If you edit someone else's work be sure it is in the spirit of improving the writing.
- If you run across inappropriate material that makes you feel uncomfortable, or is not respectful, tell your teacher or parent right away.
- Students who do not abide by these terms and conditions will lose their opportunity to take part in the project and/or access to future use of online tools and will be subject to disciplinary action.
- Parent/Guardian Responsibilities
- Classroom blogs and other social media are powerful tools that open up communication between students, parents, and teachers. This kind of communication and collaboration can have a huge impact on learning. Riverview Charter School encourages parents to view and participate by adding comments to classroom projects when appropriate.

Parents should expect communication from teachers prior to their child's involvement in any project using online social media applications, i.e., blogs, wikis, podcast, etc.

- Parents must sign a release form allowing their child to participate for students when teachers set up social media activities for classroom use.
- Parents will not attempt to destroy or harm any information online. If you find a posting of concern, please notify your child's teacher or the Director immediately.
- Parents will not use classroom social media sites for any illegal activity, including violation of data privacy laws.
- Parents are highly encouraged to read and/or participate in social media projects.
- Parents should not distribute any information that might be deemed personal about other students participating in the social media project, including but not limited to last names, parents names, addresses, emails, etc.
- Parents should not upload or include any information that does not also meet the [Student Guidelines](#).

Definitions:

Source: <http://socialmedia.wikispaces.com/A-Z+of+social+media>

- *Avatars* are graphical images representing people. They are what you are in virtual worlds. You can build a visual character with the body, clothes, behaviors, gender and name of your choice. This may or may not be an authentic representation of yourself.
- *Blogs* are websites with dated items of content in reverse chronological order, self-published by bloggers. Items – sometimes called posts - may have keyword tags associated with them, are usually available as feeds, and often allow commenting.
- Here's a longer explanation: Traditional websites have pages as their main building blocks, with an address link (URL) for each page, and menus to provide navigation between them. Blogs are websites where the items of content - for example text, photos, video, audio - have URLs plus other ways of identifying them by keywords - known as tags. This means you can search for individuals items on the Net, and also pull items out of their sites and remix them through feeds and aggregation. Blogs are generally designed in journal format, with most recent items at the top of a page, and written in a conversational, personal style, giving the author an authentic voice online. Blogs can offer readers the opportunity to comment on, and link to items. Because blog items can be made available from the site in a stream of content - known as an RSS feed - you can subscribe to them and read them through a newsreader or aggregator. That means you don't have to visit a blog site to read it - you can pull the content to your desktop or a single website aggregator. Blogs are easy to set up, and update. Their disadvantage is that items can get buried under the growing heap of new content unless the author provides some signposting.
- *Copyright* sharing through social media is enhanced by attaching a [Creative Commons](#) license specifying, for example, that content may be re-used with attribution, provided that a similar license is then attached by the new author. This work is under that type of license – [Creative Commons Attribution Share-Alike 2.5 License](#)

At more length: In the spirit of openness and sharing generally prevalent among social networkers, you will often find content labeled with a copyright license that allows you to re-use the material provided you provide an attribution. The Creative Commons site offers different licenses. One frequently used is Attribution-Share-A-like, whereby you can alter and re-use the

content provided that you then add the same license. This may not appeal to people or organizations who like substantial control. Again, it is partly a cultural and personal issue, rather than a technical one.

- *Intellectual property (IP)** refers to creations of the mind: inventions, literary and artistic works, and symbols, names, images, and designs used in commerce.

IP is divided into two categories: Industrial property, which includes inventions (patents), trademarks, industrial designs, and geographic indications of source; and Copyright, which includes literary and artistic works such as novels, poems and plays, films, musical works, artistic works such as drawings, paintings, photographs and sculptures, and architectural designs. Rights related to copyright include those of performing artists in their performances, producers of phonograms in their recordings, and those of broadcasters in their radio and television programs.

*Source: <http://www.wipo.int/about-ip/en/Links> are the highlighted text or images that, when clicked, jump you from one web page or item of content to another. Bloggers use links a lot when writing, to reference their own or other content. Linking is another aspect of sharing, by which you offer content that may be linked, and acknowledge the value of other's people's contributions by linking to them. It is part of being open and generous. A *podcast* is audio or video content that can be downloaded automatically through a subscription to a website so you can view or listen offline.

- *Tags* are keywords attached to a blog post, bookmark, photo or other item of content so you and others can find them easily through searches and aggregation. Tags can usually be freely chosen - and so form part of a folksonomy - while categories are predetermined and are part of a taxonomy.
- A *wiki* is a web page - or set of pages - that can be edited collaboratively. The best known example is wikipedia, an encyclopedia created by thousands of contributors across the world. Once people have appropriate permissions - set by the wiki owner - they can create pages and/or add to and alter existing pages. Wikis are a good way for people to write a document together, instead of emailing files to and fro. You don't have to use wikis for collaborative working - they can just be a quick and easy way of creating a web site. Although wikis are easy to use, that doesn't mean everyone in a group will commit to their use with similar enthusiasm. See commitment, readiness.

ACCIDENTAL DAMAGE OR LOSS OF COMPUTING EQUIPMENT

If a computing device suffers damage it is not an option for repairs not to be completed. All computing devices must be in a fully serviceable condition or appropriate repair action must be underway to bring the device and all accessories up to fully serviceable condition at all times. Students/employees shall use reasonable care to ensure that a computing device is not lost, stolen or damaged. In the event of damage or loss, report the problem immediately to Kevin McGuire, Information Technology Coordinator, or Erica Freeman, Technology Integrator.

In the event of damage not covered by the warranty:

- For the first instance of a non-warranty repair, Riverview will cover 50% of the repair cost and 50% will be billed to the student's family and/or employee.

- For the second instance of a non-warranty repair, all costs will be billed to the student’s family/employee.
- Any repairs totaling more than 75% of the total value of the current laptop or computing device are considered to be too great a cost and the damaged device will be replaced.
- Riverview will cover 25% of the replacement cost of a laptop, iPad, other computing device or accessory, and the family/employee will be billed 75%.
- For the second instance of complete loss of a laptop, iPad, other computing device or accessory, all costs will be billed to the family/employee.

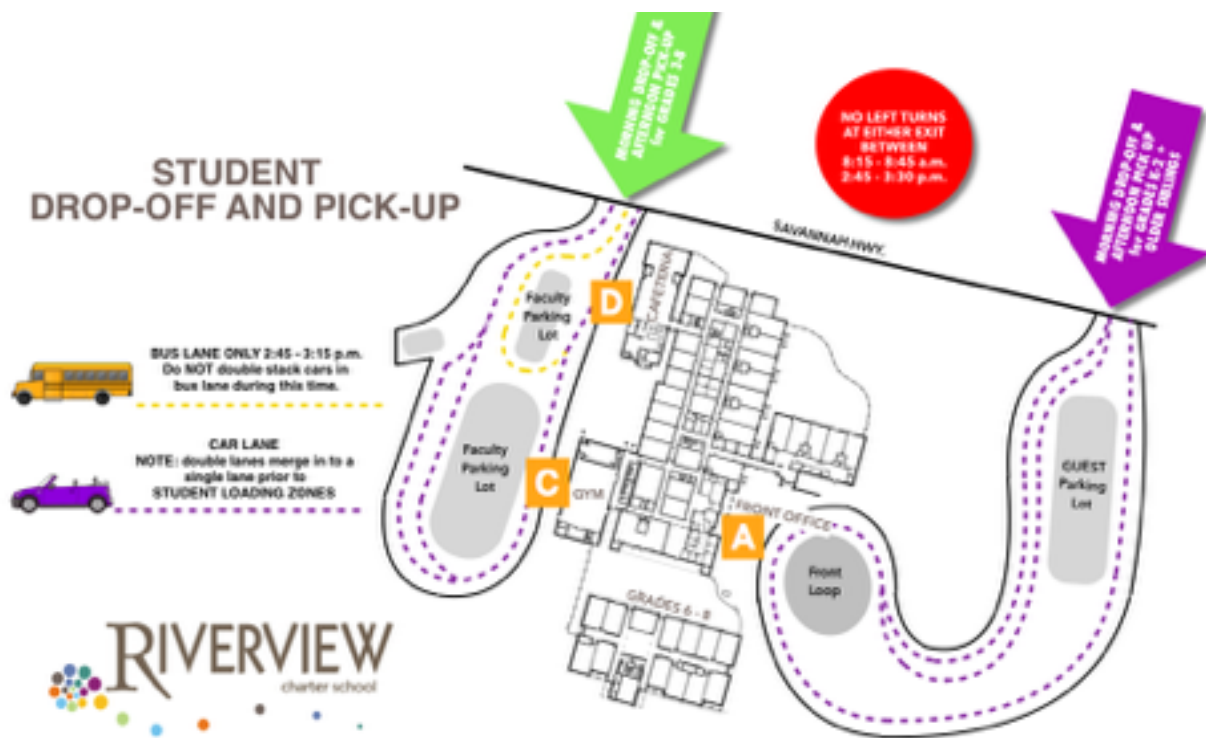
Responsibility for Negligence

Riverview reserves the right to charge the family/employee the full cost for repair or replacement when loss or damage occurs due to negligence or misuse as determined by the Director. The Director’s decision regarding negligence is final.

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APPENDICES

STUDENT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP



STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

ALL visitors enter/exit from entrance **A** (Front Office)

MORNING DROP OFF:

8:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Drop-off location is based on the YOUNGEST child in a carpool

- ENTRY **A** GRADES K-2 + OLDER SIBLINGS
- ENTRY **C** GRADES 3-8
- ENTRY **D** MORNING CARE (7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.)

AFTERNOON PICK UP:

3:05 p.m. - 3:25 p.m.

Pick up location is based on the YOUNGEST child in a carpool

- EXIT **A** GRADES K-2 + OLDER SIBLINGS
- EXIT **C** GRADES 3-8
- EXIT **A** TIDEWATCH (3:25 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

- For student safety, students must wait in their cars until greeted by a faculty member at 8:15 a.m.
- School begins promptly at 8:30 a.m.
- Students dropped off prior to 8:15 a.m. must check-in at Tidewatch Morning Care.
- Students arriving after 8:30 a.m. must be signed in by a parent in the Front Office.

- All members of your carpool will dismiss at the location of the YOUNGEST child in your carpool.
- Students dismissing by car must be picked up in the carpool line and not in the Front Lobby of the school.
- Students not picked up by 3:40 p.m. will be directed to Tidewatch and parents will be charged the Tidewatch daily rate of \$15/day.

ANNUAL PPRA NOTICE

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is to provide you with the required annual notification of your rights under **the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)** and to offer you an opportunity to opt out your child's participation in surveys that ask questions from any of PPRA's protected areas.

Parental inspection of certain materials.

Parents of Riverview Charter School students have the right to inspect all instructional materials including teacher's manuals, films, tapes or other supplementary materials which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis or evaluation as part of any applicable program.

The school will make the materials available for inspection at appropriate locations.

The school will not require any student as part of any applicable program to submit to a survey, analysis or evaluation that reveals information concerning items prohibited by law cited in the references below.

The school will give parents and students effective notice of their rights under the law.

Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)-

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior of students;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and opportunity to opt a student out of –

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening pertinent or required State law; and

3. Activities involving collection" disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use –

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional materials used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

Riverview Charter School has adopted policies, to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. Riverview Charter School will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after and substantive changes. Riverview Charter School will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. Riverview Charter School will make this notification to parent at the beginning of the school year if the school has identified the specific or approximate dates of activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202-5901

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter of notification, please do not hesitate to contact my office at your earliest possible convenience.

Sincerely,
Alison H. Thomas

Legal references:

20 U.S.C. Code, Section 1232h, as amended:
SEC.439.

(a) All instructional materials, including teacher's manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary material which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable program shall be available for inspection by the parents or guardians of the children.

b) No student shall be required, as part of any applicable program, to submit to a survey, analysis or evaluation that reveals information concerning--

(1) political affiliations;

(2) mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or his family;

(3) sex behavior or attitudes;

— (4) illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior;

(5) critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;

(6) legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers; or

(7) income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program), without the prior consent of the student (if the student is an adult or emancipated minor), or in the case of an unemancipated minor, without the prior written consent of the parent.

(c) educational agencies and institutions shall give parents and students effective notice of their rights under this section

(d) The law also requires that parents or guardians be allowed to inspect any instructional materials (teacher's manuals, films, tapes, etc.) which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis or evaluation, whether or not it is one requiring prior parental consent. The PPRA requires schools receiving federal funds to establish policies, in consultation with parents, regarding (1) the right of parents to inspect surveys or instructional materials before they are distributed, (2) the administration of physical examinations or screenings of students, and (3) the collection or use of student personal information for the purpose of marketing or selling that information (except where collection is for the purpose of developing or providing educational product or services). Schools must provide parents with reasonable notice of the adoption and use of these policies.

(e) The PPRA also requires that schools notify parents at least annually at the beginning of the school year of the specific or approximate date that the following activities will take place:

- The collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information.
- The administration of a survey for which parental consent is required;
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination that is required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school, and not required to protect the immediate health and safety of students.

- Parents and guardians also must be notified that they can opt their child out of participating in any of these activities.

The clear intent of this law is to give parents and guardians control over their children's participation in school-sponsored activities aimed at gathering information about the child or his family. Attempts to avoid these requirements by labeling the activity "curriculum" plainly undermine the purpose of protecting child and family privacy. Parents, guardians or students who believe their rights under the PPRA have been violated should contact The Rutherford Institute's Legal Hotline at legal@rutherford.org or call us at (434) 978-3888.

Additional information on the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment is available from the U.S. Department of Education at www.ed.gov/policy/een/suid/foco/ppm/index

ANNUAL FERPA NOTICE

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to provide you with the required annual notification of your rights under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

General provisions

A student's "education records" are those records directly related to a student and maintained by the school or a party acting for the school. "Parent" refers to a parent, a legal guardian, a person acting as a parent, a surrogate appointed in accordance with laws regulating programs for disabled students or a student who is 18 years of age or over, or a student who is attending an institution of postsecondary education on a full-time basis.

Whenever a student is 18 or is attending an institution of postsecondary education, the rights accorded to and the consent required of the parent of the student will thereafter only be accorded to and required of the eligible student unless the school district has received notice that a court has awarded legal guardianship beyond the age of majority. The school will document such notice.

In maintaining student records, the schools will follow applicable state and federal regulations.

Location of the student records

The school or the district office (if a student is no longer enrolled) will maintain a cumulative record folder that contains directory information, scholastic information, standardized test data, health records and other similar information. This cumulative record will include, but not be limited to, the following information:

- name (last, first and middle), also the preferred name (nickname)
- date of birth (verified) along with the sex and ethnic background, social security number, address and telephone number names of parents and/or legal guardians
- health record, including surveys for vision, speech and hearing
- all standardized test scores
- attendance and scholarship record card
- special services documentation where appropriate
- appropriate correspondence with parents
- criminal record (if convicted of certain crimes)
- proof of residency
- Legal document

Except as provided in paragraph 4 of this section, the school maintains copies of psychological reports and related records if the school has given psychological evaluations to the student as follows.

The appropriate personnel in the school office and/or the appropriate school will keep records concerning students who have had administrative hearings.

Once a student graduates, the district files the student's records in the high school. If a student drops out of school before graduation, the school will file his/her records.

Directory information

Schools will treat each student's education records as confidential and primarily for local school use. The exception to this rule is for directory information, which includes the following information about a student:

- Name
- Address
- telephone number
- date and place of birth
- participation in officially recognized activities and sports where appropriate
- weight and height of members of athletic teams
- dates of attendance
- diploma or certificate and awards received
- the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student
- other similar information

The school will not release directory information to any person or agency for commercial use. The school expects its employees to use good judgment in releasing directory information so it serves the best interests of the student.

Within 15 days after the annual distribution of notification of privacy rights, the parent or legal guardian of the student or the eligible and currently enrolled student has the right to refuse to permit the designation of any or all of the categories of personally identifiable information as directory information. The parent/eligible student's notification must be in writing. The written notification will become part of the student's education record. The Director of the school the student is attending is responsible for notifying appropriate personnel of the request and filing the request in the student's cumulative folder .

Release of school records

The Family Education and Privacy Act of 1974 requires the following procedures in the release of school records.

- The school cannot release school records to any person or agency (employer, government agency, etc.) without the written consent of a student's parent or legal guardian. If the student is 18 years of age, he/she may sign for the release of his/her records
- The school will release school records, without prior written consent of parent or legal guardian or eligible student, to officials of other educational institutions in which the student seeks or intends to enroll. The school will notify the student's parent or legal guardian of the transfer only if he/she has requested this exception to the school policy.

Records made by an employee

A school employee's personal records on a student are not part of the student's education record as long as that person keeps the notes solely for his/her own use and maintains them separately from the school files.

A substitute who performs the employee's duties on a temporary basis may use these personal records. However, the employee may not pass the records on to a successor.

Management of records

The school will protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable data on children during collection, storage, disclosure and destruction.

School personnel, school psychologists under contract with the School and other eligible state and federal employees who need the records to carry out their assigned duties and who have a legitimate educational interest will have access to or may receive information from the education records. The Director will maintain a current list of such individuals. The school will also give access to parents or legal guardians and eligible students as provided below.

Students transferring to another school

When a student transfers from Riverview to a school outside the district, the school will send a copy of the student's record to the receiving school.

Disclosure (except for directory information)

The school has the right to disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency, if knowledge of the information is immediately necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

The school will require a written request or consent from a parent or legal guardian or eligible student for each act of release of information. Blanket authorization for release of information is not permissible. Written requests or consent will include the types of information to be released, the purpose(s) for the disclosure, the parties or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made, the date signed and the signature of the parent or legal guardian or eligible student.

The school will not require prior consent for disclosure when state and federal officials request the information as authorized by statutes or regulations implementing statutes.

The school will not require prior consent to disclose information to organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the district for the purpose of developing, validating or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs and improving instruction as long as students and/or their parents are not personally identified and the records are destroyed when no longer needed for the prescribed purpose.

The school will not require prior consent when disclosing information to accrediting organizations in order for them to carry out his/her accrediting functions.

The school will not require prior consent when disclosing information in order for the school to comply with a request from a judicial order, a lawfully issued subpoena, or a family court judge or his/her duly authorized representative acting in an official capacity.

Except as provided elsewhere in these regulations, the school district will keep a record of disclosures not authorized by the parent, eligible student or these regulations.

The student's cumulative folder, will provide the following information:

- the name of the party receiving the information:
- the data released
- the legitimate purpose for which the data was requested

Annual notification of rights

Each school will distribute annual notice of privacy rights to parents or legal guardians and eligible students in attendance at the time of notification.

Request for inspection

Anyone who wants to inspect the records must make the request for inspection (or an explanation or interpretation) of a student's record to the Director of the school in which the student is enrolled or where the record is housed.

The Director or designated school administrators will set a time and place for the inspection of such records within a reasonable period of time, but in no case more than 45 days after the request has been made. If a hearing concerning the student is pending, the employee will honor the request for inspection of the student's record prior to the hearing.

At the inspection, the principal will have appropriate personnel available to interpret information on the records.

The school is responsible for the maintenance of each student's record. Therefore, school personnel are not to turn the original record or microfilmed copy of a record over to any person or organization unless they have a specific, written judicial order for such action.

If the parent or legal guardian or eligible student believes that the information in the education record is inaccurate, misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of the student, he/she can request an amendment to the record. The school official receiving the request will either amend the record, if appropriate, or notify the parent or eligible student within 15 working days in writing that the request is denied and that he/she has the right to request a hearing as provided below.

Each parent of a child has the right to inspect and review the child's record unless the school has written evidence that there is a legally binding instrument or a court order governing such matters as divorce,

separation or custody which provides to the contrary. The same applies to parental requests for disclosure to other individuals and to organizations.

A parent or an eligible student has the right to give written authorization for a representative to inspect and review the education records of the student.

Hearings to challenge information in student's records

Parents or eligible students will make requests for hearings to the Director where the record is housed. The Director or his/her designee may conduct the hearing.

The Director will set a date, time and place for the hearing and notify the requester in writing of the date, time and place. The Director will establish the hearing date within five working days of receipt of the request. The Director must mail written notice of the hearing to the parent or eligible student at least 10 days prior to the hearing.

A school official who does not have a direct interest in the outcome will conduct the hearing.

At the hearing, the Director will try to have present the person who has entered the information in question if the person is known and reasonably available. The parent or student who requested the hearing will have the right to question that person if present and be able to show evidence that would correct inaccurate, misleading or otherwise inappropriate information. Such evidence will become a permanent part of the student's record.

The parent of the student or the eligible student will have a full and fair opportunity to present relevant evidence, and may be assisted or represented at their expense by legal counsel.

If, as a result of the hearing, the school decides that the information is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, it will inform the parent or eligible student in writing that he/she has the right to place in the education record a statement commenting upon the information in the record and/or setting forth any reasons for disagreeing with the decision. Any such statement must remain with the record as long as the contested portion remains in the record. Disclosure of the contested portion must include the statement of the parent or eligible student.

The school will send its decision (including a summary of the evidence), the reasons for the decision and the right to a judicial appeal in writing to the parent or eligible student within five working days after the conclusion of the hearing. The school district will base its decision solely on evidence.

Destruction of education records

The school district may destroy data which are no longer needed for providing direct educational services as long as the following conditions apply:

- There is no outstanding request to inspect and review the education record.

- The School keeps the record of disclosures as long as it maintains the education record to which it relates.
- The data do not concern the referral, evaluation, staffing and placement of a handicapped student or a student suspected at one time of having a handicap. Such data will be sent to the office of programs for the handicapped when no longer needed for providing direct educational services to a student.

No one may remove the following items from a student's cumulative record at any time:

- name (last, first and middle), also the preferred name (nickname)
- date of birth (verified) along with the sex and ethnic background, social security number
- address and telephone number
- names of parents and/or legal guardians
- health record, including surveys for vision, speech and hearing
- all standardized test scores
- attendance and scholarship record card
- special services documentation where appropriate
- appropriate correspondence with parents
- criminal record (if convicted of certain crimes)
- proof of residency
- legal documents

Special services documentation

Special services documentation is to remain in a student's cumulative record until graduation, even if the student is not enrolled in a special program. Correspondence with parents should be reevaluated and thrown away after five years. Any materials relating to a child's preschool and kindergarten experiences should be sent home after second grade.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Office

Parents and eligible students have the right to file written complaints concerning alleged violations of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Written complaints should be sent to the following address.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Office
 Department of Education
 330 Independence Avenue, S. W.
 Washington, DC 20201

This office has the responsibility for investigating, processing and reviewing alleged violations. This office will refer appropriate cases to a review board for adjudication. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this notification, please do not hesitate to contact my office at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,
Alison Thomas
Director

Athletic Policy Agreement (sample for reference)

I have read Riverview Charter School's Athletic policies as well as the school's Student Behavior Code, and I agree to follow all of the rules as a student athlete at Riverview Charter School. I understand that failure to abide by all of the applicable rules could result in disciplinary measure including dismissal from the team.

Signature of Student Athlete

Date

I give permission for my child, _____, to participate in student athletics at Riverview Charter School.

Additionally, as the parents of a Riverview Charter School student athlete I pledge to follow the school's Parent's Code of Conduct as follows:

I will remember that youth sports are played for fun and will remember that games are played for the youth and not for the adults;

I will help my child learn that success is measured by the development of skills, not winning or losing;

I will place my child's emotional and physical well being ahead of my own personal desire to win;

I will be a "team" fan, not a "my child" fan;

I will show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team;

I will do my best to understand and appreciate the rules of the contest;

I will insist my player treat other players, coaches, officials, and fans with respect, and I will be a role model for my team by doing the same;

I will reinforce the school's drug and alcohol free policies and refrain from use alcohol and other drugs before or during contests and remind other parents to do the same;

If I have a concern, I will talk to the coach at the appropriate time and place, i.e., never before, during, or immediately after a contest.

I understand that I will be suspended, without warning, from attendance at school athletic practices and events (including games, recognition ceremonies, etc.) for any violation of this Parent's Code of Conduct.

Signature of Parent

Date

Signature of Parent

Date

Student-Athlete Concussion Acknowledgment Statement (SAMPLE FOR REFERENCE)

I, _____, understand that it is my responsibility to report all injuries and illnesses, including a possible concussion, to my athletic trainer and/or coach.

I have read and am aware of the following information:

1. A concussion is a brain injury that can affect my ability to perform everyday activities and affect reaction time, balance, sleep, and classroom performance;
2. I cannot see a concussion, but I might notice some of the symptom right away. I understand other symptoms can show up hours or days after the injury;
3. If I suspect a teammate has a concussion, I am responsible for reporting the injury to my head coach or athletic trainer;
4. I understand I cannot return to a game or practice if I have received a blow to the head or body that results in concussion-related symptoms;
5. Following a concussion, I understand that the brain needs time to heal. I understand that I can only return to practice or play after at least 24 hours *and* with written permission from a health care professional;
6. In rare cases, I realize repeat concussions can cause permanent brain damage and even death.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above information regarding concussions, and accept these responsibilities to protect my well-being. If I have any questions, it is my responsibility to ask the athletic training staff or my coach.

Date: _____
Signature of Student

Date: _____
Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

**WAIVER AND RELEASE FROM LIABILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR
SPORTS/ACTIVITIES (SAMPLE FOR REFERENCE)**

This waiver and release is entered into by _____ (hereinafter "Student"),
_____ (hereinafter "Parent"), and Riverview Charter School.

Student's participation in _____ (extracurricular sport/activity) is voluntary and not required as a student of Riverview Charter School.

1. Parent hereby gives consent for the above named Student to participate and compete in Riverview Charter School's _____ (identify activity) program and travel with the school representative on authorized school trips.
2. Student and Parent acknowledge that participation in _____ (sports/activity) includes risk of injury that may range in severity from minor to disabling to even death.
3. Parent and student agree to release, hold harmless and indemnify Riverview Charter School, its employees, officers, agents, and volunteers from any liability, loss, cost, damage and/or expense of any nature, including all attorneys' fees and costs which Parent or Student may have or incur resulting, either directly or indirectly, from Student's participation in _____ (sports/activity).
4. For purposes of this agreement, liability means all claims, demands, losses, causes of action, suits or judgments of any and every kind that arises from Student's participation in _____ (sports/activity).
5. Student and Parent further expressly agree that the foregoing release and waiver provisions are intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of South Carolina, and that if any portion of it is held void, voidable, or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

The undersigned have read and voluntarily sign this release and waiver of liability and further agree that no oral representations, statements or inducements, apart from this agreement, have been made.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Riverview Charter School iPad Air User Agreement (Sample for reference)

Riverview Charter School is pleased to offer a 1:1 iPad Program for students in grades six through eight. ***Students will use this digital tool to access assignments and textbooks, post homework, receive messages from their teachers, and other educational tools. Student iPads are as important to the middle school classroom as a pencil is to the elementary classroom.*** Welcome to the digital age and to 21st Century Learning!

Please read the following Acceptable Use Policy, sign it, and return it to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

- The Riverview Technology Acceptable Use Policy applies to student use of school iPads;
- School issued iPads are the property of Riverview Charter School (RCS) and are subject to unannounced random checks by Riverview faculty;
- Students may not remove the serial number asset tag or any other identifiers placed on the device by Riverview;
- Students may not alter the configuration on their school issued iPad;
- ***Students may not sync their iPad to any computer other than the authorized Riverview computer;***
- Students may NOT change the lock screen on their iPad. School iPads must show the Riverview logo and device name at all times;
- School issued iPads are an instructional tool and must be treated as such. ***Students may NOT use their iPads for non-academic purposes during school hours, including but not limited to: taking photos of self or others; taking video of self or others; web browsing for personal items such as clothing, music, sports statistics, etc.;***
- ***Logging in to another student's iPad without the consent of the "Owner" student AND a Riverview faculty member is prohibited;***
- Students may not use school iPads to send/receive personal emails;
- Downloading and/or streaming music, videos, games, apps, and books is prohibited unless specifically assigned or approved by a teacher or the school's technology department;
- iPads may not be taken to lunch or recess;
- ***When transporting the iPad between home and school (or between classes during school), iPads must be stowed safely in a student's backpack and out of sight. This includes during dismissal and while riding the bus.***
- Damages and/or lost/stolen iPads MUST be reported immediately.

Care and Use of iPad

- ***Students are REQUIRED to have their iPads daily (with a fully charged battery) in order to access necessary materials such as textbooks. If a student doesn't bring their iPad, their grades may suffer due to their inability to participate in class activities, lessons and assignments;***
- Students may personalize their backgrounds/wallpaper (not the lock screen), but all images must be school appropriate;
- Students will set a password to unlock their iPads. Students are responsible for remembering this password, and students share their password at their own risk. Teachers cannot reset passwords.
- Care must be kept in order to keep the iPad from being damaged. Do not eat or drink while using the iPad. iPads may only be cleaned with approved cleaning cloths and solutions. ***Purchasing a case is strongly encouraged.*** Students and their families are responsible for repairs (see Technology Acceptable Use Policy in Family Handbook);
- If damages to a student device do occur, please refer to your Parent Portal account for technology repair costs. Once repairs are made, your account will be billed according to the Technology Acceptable Use Policy;
- While on school grounds, iPads will be locked and secured in designated locations when not in use.

Apple IDs for Students

Riverview students will be able to create a *Student Apple ID* (ages 13 years and younger). The Student Apple ID will allow students to enroll their school iPad on our school server, as well as access content pushed out by the technology department. All *Student Apple IDs* require parental consent and provide parental control settings so parents may limit their child's account in whatever manner they deem appropriate.

In addition, *Student Apple IDs* will:

- allow iPads to back up automatically to iCloud;
- access work via iCloud from any device/computer;
- allow for bookmarks and notes to be taken in iBooks;
- use Find My Phone to locate lost or stolen devices;
- enroll and participate in *iTunes U* courses;

Consequences for Violations of iPad User Agreement

1. The first offense requires a conference with the parent, student, teacher, and Leadership Team member;
2. The second offense results in one day of In-School Suspension;
3. The third offense results in two days of Out of School Suspension;
4. Each offense thereafter results in two additional days of Out of School Suspension;
5. Should a pattern of behavior emerge in violation of this agreement, students may be subject to Expulsion;

Riverview provides a high level of internet content filtering on campus through our wireless network. However, content filtering is not always 100% effective. Student use of the internet during school hours will be monitored by adults. Please be aware that the iPad is Wi-Fi capable. Once off of school grounds, students will be able to access the Internet through unprotected wireless networks. Riverview is not responsible for content viewed on other wireless networks during non-school hours.

Name of Student (please print)

Date

Signature of Student

Date

Signature of Parent

Date

Parent Name (please print)

Date

Expulsion Hearing Procedures (sample for referenced)

- 1) The hearing shall be closed to the public unless the parent/legal guardian requests in writing that it be open.
- 2) **Record of the Hearing:** The Director or his/her designee shall be responsible for making a record of any information orally presented at the hearing. This can be done by audio recording. The Director should keep statements and any other written material presented during the hearing on file.
- 3) **Presentation of Statements and Records:** If statements signed by persons with personal knowledge concerning the student's misconduct have been acquired, the Director or his/her designee is responsible for presenting those statements during the hearing. The student or his/her representative shall have the opportunity to present their own statements and records.
- 4) **Use of Witnesses:** The hearing shall consist of a review of the statements and records presented by the Director and the student and the testimony of any witnesses appearing on behalf of either party. The Director shall have the opportunity to question the student and the student, or his representative, shall have the opportunity to make a statement which need not be reduced to writing or filed with the Director prior to the hearing.
- 5) **Examination of Witnesses/Statements:** The Director, any administrator, the student, the parent/legal guardian, or the student's representative may question any witnesses and any witness statements about any matter relevant to the charge of misconduct and the proper disposition of the matter. The Director has the authority to limit unproductively long or irrelevant questioning.
- 6) **Role of the Parent/Legal Guardian:** The parent/legal guardian should be present at the hearing and should have an opportunity to make a statement and to answer questions. Any such statement need not be filed with the Director prior to the hearing. The parent/legal guardian shall be permitted to advise the student during the hearing.
- 7) **Adult Representation:** If the student or the parent/legal guardian believes the student's interests can be better protected by the presence of another adult in addition to the parent/legal guardian, the student may bring another adult to the hearing who may be an attorney. An attorney representing a student at the hearing shall be primarily present to ensure that the student's due process rights are not violated. Any adult representative shall be subject to these Discipline Hearing Procedures.



FAMILY HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
-ONE PER FAMILY -

I have received and reviewed the Family Handbook 2017-2018, and my family will comply with Riverview Charter School's rules, procedures and policies.

Student's Name(s)

Print Name (Parent)

Parent Signature

Date

Riverview Charter School Wellness Policy

Preamble

Riverview Charter School (hereto referred to as RCS) is committed to the optimal development of every student. RCS believes that for students to have the opportunity to achieve personal, academic, developmental, and social success, we need to create positive, safe, and health-promoting learning environments at every level, in every setting, throughout the school year.

Research shows that two components, good nutrition and physical activity before, during, and after the school day, are strongly correlated with positive student outcomes. For example, student participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) School Breakfast Program is associated with higher grades and standardized test scores, lower absenteeism, and better performance on cognitive tasks.[i],[ii],[iii],[iv],[v],[vi],[vii] Conversely, less-than-adequate consumption of specific foods including fruits, vegetables, and dairy products, is associated with lower grades among students.[viii],[ix],[x] In addition, students who are physically active through active transport to and from school, recess, physical activity breaks, high-quality physical education, and extracurricular activities – do better academically.[xi],[xii],[xiii],[xiv]

This policy outlines the school’s approach to ensuring environments and opportunities for all students to practice healthy eating and physical activity behaviors throughout the school day while minimizing commercial distractions. Specifically, this policy establishes goals and procedures to ensure that:

- Students at RCS have access to healthy foods throughout the school day—both through reimbursable school meals and other foods available throughout the school campus—in accordance with Federal and state nutrition standards;
- Students receive quality nutrition education that helps them develop lifelong healthy eating behaviors;
- Students have opportunities to be physically active before, during, and after school;
- Schools engage in nutrition and physical activity promotion and other activities that promote student wellness;
- School staff are encouraged and supported to practice healthy nutrition and physical activity behaviors in and out of school;
- The community is engaged in supporting the work of RCS in creating continuity between school and other settings for students and staff to practice lifelong healthy habits; and
- RCS establishes and maintains an infrastructure for management, oversight, implementation, communication about, and monitoring of the policy and its established goals and objectives.

This policy applies to all students and staff.

School Wellness Committee

Committee Role and Membership

RCS will convene a representative School Wellness Committee (hereto referred to as the SWC or work within an existing school health committee) that meets at least four times per year to establish goals for and oversee school health and safety policies and programs, including development, implementation, and periodic review and update of this school wellness policy (heretofore referred as “wellness policy”). The SWC membership will represent all school levels (elementary and secondary schools) and include (to the extent possible), but not be limited to: parents and caregivers; students; representatives of the school nutrition program (ex., school nutrition director); physical education teachers; health education

teachers; school health professionals (ex., health education teachers, school health services staff [i.e., nurses, physicians, dentists, health educators, and other allied health personnel who provide school health services], and mental health and social services staff [i.e., school counselors, psychologists, social workers, or psychiatrists]; school administrators (ex., superintendent, principal, vice principal), school board members; health professionals (ex., dietitians, doctors, nurses, dentists); and the general public. To the extent possible, the SWC will include representatives which reflect the diversity of the community.

Leadership

The school's Director and Executive Chef will convene the SWC and facilitate development of and updates to the wellness policy, and will ensure the school's compliance with the policy.

Each school will designate a school wellness policy coordinator, who will ensure compliance with the policy. Refer to Appendix A for a list of school level wellness policy coordinators.

Wellness Policy Implementation, Monitoring, Accountability, & Community Engagement

Implementation Plan

RCS will develop and maintain a plan for implementation to manage and coordinate the execution of this wellness policy. The plan delineates roles, responsibilities, actions, and timelines specific to each school, and includes information about who will be responsible to make what change, by how much, where, and when, as well as specific goals and objectives for nutrition standards for all foods and beverages available on the school campus, food and beverage marketing, nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, physical education, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. It is recommended that the school use the [Healthy Schools Program online tools](#) to complete a school level assessment based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's School Health Index, create an action plan that fosters implementation, and generate an annual progress report.

This wellness policy and the progress reports can be found at: www.riverviewcharterschool.org

Recordkeeping

The school will retain records to document compliance with the requirements of the wellness policy at Riverview Charter School 81 Savannah Hwy Beaufort, SC 29906 in the Executive Chef's office. Documentation maintained in this location will include but will not be limited to:

- The written wellness policy;
- Documentation demonstrating compliance with community involvement requirements, including (1) Efforts to actively solicit SWC membership from the required stakeholder groups; and (2) These groups' participation in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the wellness policy;
- Documentation of annual policy progress reports for each school under its jurisdiction; and
- Documentation of the triennial assessment* of the policy for each school under its jurisdiction;
- Documentation demonstrating compliance with public notification requirements, including: (1) Methods by which the wellness policy, annual progress reports, and triennial assessments are

made available to the public; and (2) Efforts to actively notify families about the availability of wellness policy.

Annual Progress Reports

RCS will compile and publish an annual report to share basic information about the wellness policy and report on the progress of the schools in meeting wellness goals. This annual report will be published around the same time each year and will include information from the school. This report will include, but is not limited to:

- The website address for the wellness policy and/or how the public can receive/access a copy of the wellness policy;
- A description of each school's progress in meeting the wellness policy goals;
- A summary of each school's events or activities related to wellness policy implementation;
- The name, position title, and contact information of the designated policy leader(s) identified in Section I; and
- Information on how individuals and the public can get involved with the SWC.

The annual report will be available in English.

The school will actively notify households/families of the availability of the annual report.

The SWC, will establish and monitor goals and objectives for the school, specific and appropriate for each instructional unit (elementary or secondary OR elementary, middle, and high school, as appropriate), for each of the content-specific components listed in Sections III-V of this policy.

Triennial Progress Assessments

At least once every three years, RCS will evaluate compliance with the wellness policy to assess the implementation of the policy and include:

- The extent to which school is in compliance with the wellness policy;
- The extent to which the school's wellness policy compares to the Alliance for a Healthier Generation's model wellness policy; and
- A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the school's wellness policy.

The position/person responsible for managing the triennial assessment and contact information is Lisa Eklund, Executive Chef at Riverview Charter School 81 Savannah Hwy Beaufort, SC 29906. The Executive Chef, in collaboration with the school's Director, will monitor schools' compliance with this wellness policy. RCS will actively notify households/families of the availability of the triennial progress report.

Revisions and Updating the Policy

The Riverview Board will update or modify the wellness policy based on the results of the annual progress reports and triennial assessments, and/or as school priorities change; community needs change; wellness goals are met; new health science, information, and technology emerges; and new Federal or state guidance or standards are issued. **The wellness policy will be assessed and updated as indicated at least every three years, following the triennial assessment.**

Community Involvement, Outreach, and Communications

RCS is committed to being responsive to community input, which begins with awareness of the wellness policy. RCS will actively communicate ways in which representatives of SWC and others can participate

in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the wellness policy through a variety of means appropriate for RCS. The school will also inform parents of the improvements that have been made to school meals and compliance with school meal standards, availability of child nutrition programs and how to apply, and a description of and compliance with Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. RCS will use electronic mechanisms, such as email or displaying notices on the school's website, as well as non-electronic mechanisms, such as newsletters, presentations to parents, or sending information home to parents, to ensure that all families are actively notified of the content of, implementation of, and updates to the wellness policy, as well as how to get involved and support the policy. RCS will ensure that communications are culturally and linguistically appropriate to the community, and accomplished through means similar to other ways that the school is communicating other important school information with parents.

RCS will actively notify the public about the content of or any updates to the wellness policy annually, at a minimum. RCS will also use these mechanisms to inform the community about the availability of the annual and triennial reports.

Nutrition

School Meals

Our school is committed to serving healthy meals to children, with plenty of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and fat-free and low-fat milk; moderate in sodium, low in saturated fat, and zero grams *trans* fat per serving (nutrition label or manufacturer's specification); and to meet the nutrition needs of school children within their calorie requirements. The school meal programs aim to improve the diet and health of school children, help mitigate childhood obesity, model healthy eating to support the development of lifelong healthy eating patterns, and support healthy choices while accommodating cultural food preferences and special dietary needs.

RCS participates in USDA child nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), the School Breakfast Program (SBP), and after-school Snack Program. RCS is committed to offering school meals through the NSLP and SBP programs, and other applicable Federal child nutrition programs, that:

- Are accessible to all students;
- Are appealing and attractive to children;
- Are served in clean and pleasant settings;
- Meet or exceed current nutrition requirements established by local, state, and Federal statutes and regulations. (RCS offers reimbursable school meals that meet [USDA nutrition standards](#).)
- Promote healthy food and beverage choices using at least ten of the following [Smarter Lunchroom techniques](#):
- Whole fruit options are displayed in attractive bowls or baskets (instead of chaffing dishes or hotel pans)
- Sliced or cut fruit is available daily
- Daily fruit options are displayed in a location in the line of sight and reach of students
- Daily vegetable options are bundled into all grab and go meals available to students
- All staff members, especially those serving, have been trained to politely prompt students to select and consume the daily vegetable options with their meal
- White milk is placed in front of other beverages in all coolers

- A reimbursable meal can be created in any service area available to students (e.g., salad bars, snack rooms, etc.)
- Student surveys and taste testing opportunities are used to inform menu development, dining space decor, and promotional ideas

Staff Qualifications and Professional Development

The Executive Chef and kitchen staff will meet or exceed hiring and annual continuing education/training requirements in the [USDA professional standards for child nutrition professionals](#). These school nutrition personnel will refer to [USDA’s Professional Standards for School Nutrition Standards website](#) to search for training that meets their learning needs.

Water

To promote hydration, free, safe, unflavored drinking water will be available to all students throughout the school day* and throughout every school campus* (“school campus” and “school day” are defined in the glossary). RCS will make drinking water available where school meals are served during meal times. In addition, students will be allowed to bring and carry (approved) water bottles filled with only water with them throughout the day.

Competitive Foods and Beverages

RCS is committed to ensuring that all foods and beverages available to students on the school campus* during the school day* support healthy eating. The foods and beverages sold and served outside of the school meal programs (i.e., “competitive” foods and beverages) will meet the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, at a minimum. Smart Snacks aim to improve student health and well-being, increase consumption of healthful foods during the school day, and create an environment that reinforces the development of healthy eating habits. A summary of the standards and information are available at:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/healthierschoolday/tools-schools-smart-snacks>.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation provides a set of tools to assist with implementation of Smart Snacks available at www.healthiergeneration.org/smartsnacks.

To support healthy food choices and improve student health and well-being, all foods and beverages outside the reimbursable school meal programs that are sold to students on the school campus during the school day* will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks nutrition standards. These standards will apply in all locations and through all services where foods and beverages are sold, which may include, but are not limited to, a la carte options in cafeterias, vending machines, school stores, and snack or food carts.

Celebrations and Rewards

All foods offered on the school campus will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, including through:

- Celebrations and parties. The school will provide a list of healthy party ideas to parents and teachers, including non-food celebration ideas. Healthy party ideas from the [Alliance for a Healthier Generation](#) and from the [USDA](#).
- Classroom snacks brought by parents. The school will provide to parents a [list of foods and beverages that meet Smart Snacks](#) nutrition standards; and

- Rewards and incentives. The school will provide teachers and other relevant school staff a [list of alternative ways to reward children](#). Foods and beverages will not be used as a reward, or withheld as punishment for any reason, such as for performance or behavior.

Fundraising

Foods and beverages that meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in Schools nutrition standards may be sold through fundraisers on the school campus* during the school day*. The school will make available to parents and teachers a list of healthy fundraising ideas such as the *from the [Alliance for a Healthier Generation](#) and the [USDA](#)*].

- *Schools will use only non-food fundraisers, and encourage those promoting physical activity (such as walk-a-thons, jump rope for heart, fun runs, etc.).*
- *Fundraising during and outside school hours will sell only non-food items or foods and beverages that meet or exceed the Smart Snacks nutrition standards. This may include but is not limited to, donation nights at restaurants, cookie dough, candy and pizza sales, market days, etc. (Meets HSP Gold)]*

●

Nutrition Promotion

Nutrition promotion and education positively influence lifelong eating behaviors by using evidence-based techniques and nutrition messages, and by creating food environments that encourage healthy nutrition choices and encourage participation in school meal programs. Students and staff will receive consistent nutrition messages throughout schools, classrooms, gymnasiums, and cafeterias. Nutrition promotion also includes marketing and advertising nutritious foods and beverages to students and is most effective when implemented consistently through a comprehensive and multi-channel approach by school staff and teachers, parents, students, and the community.

RCS will promote healthy food and beverage choices for all students throughout the school campus, as well as encourage participation in school meal programs. This promotion will occur through at least:

- Implementing evidence-based healthy food promotion techniques through the school meal programs using [Smarter Lunchroom techniques](#); and
- Promoting foods and beverages that meet the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. Additional possible promotion techniques that the school may use are available at www.healthiergeneration.org/smartsnacks.

Nutrition Education

RCS aims to teach, model, encourage, and support healthy eating by students. Schools will provide nutrition education and engage in nutrition promotion that:

- Is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to promote and protect their health;
- Is part of not only health education classes, but also integrated into other classroom instruction through subjects such as math, science, language arts, social sciences, and elective subjects;
- Include enjoyable, developmentally-appropriate, culturally-relevant, and participatory activities, such as cooking demonstrations or lessons, promotions, taste-testing, farm visits, and school gardens;

- Promote fruits, vegetables, whole-grain products, low-fat and fat-free dairy products, and healthy food preparation methods;
- Emphasize caloric balance between food intake and energy expenditure (promotes physical activity/exercise);
- Link with school meal programs, cafeteria nutrition promotion activities, school gardens, Farm to School programs, other school foods, and nutrition-related community services;
- Teach media literacy with an emphasis on food and beverage marketing; and
- Include nutrition education training for teachers and other staff.
-

Essential Healthy Eating Topics in Health Education

RCS will work to include the following essential topics on healthy eating in its health education curriculum:

- The relationship between healthy eating and personal health and disease prevention
- Food guidance from [MyPlate](#)
- Reading and using USDA's food labels
- Eating a variety of foods every day
- Balancing food intake and physical activity
- Eating more fruits, vegetables, and whole grain products
- Choosing foods that are low in fat, saturated fat, and cholesterol and do not contain *trans* fat
- Choosing foods and beverages with little added sugars
- Eating more calcium-rich foods
- Preparing healthy meals and snacks
- Risks of unhealthy weight control practices
- Accepting body size differences
- Food safety
- Importance of water consumption
- Importance of eating breakfast
- Making healthy choices when eating at restaurants
- Eating disorders
- The Dietary Guidelines for Americans
- Reducing sodium intake
- Social influences on healthy eating, including media, family, peers, and culture
- How to find valid information or services related to nutrition and dietary behavior
- How to develop a plan and track progress toward achieving a personal goal to eat healthfully
- Resisting peer pressure related to unhealthy dietary behavior
- Influencing, supporting, or advocating for others' healthy dietary behavior

[USDA's Team Nutrition](#) provides free nutrition education and promotion materials, including standards-based nutrition education curricula and lesson plans, posters, interactive games, menu graphics, and more.

Food and Beverage Marketing in Schools

RCS is committed to providing a school environment that ensures opportunities for all students to practice healthy eating and physical activity behaviors throughout the school day while minimizing commercial distractions. The school strives to teach students how to make informed choices about nutrition, health, and physical activity. These efforts will be weakened if students are subjected to advertising on school property that contains messages inconsistent with the health information the school is imparting through nutrition education and health promotion efforts. It is the intent of the school to protect and promote student's health by permitting advertising and marketing for only those foods and beverages that are permitted to be sold on the school campus, consistent with the school's wellness policy.

Any foods and beverages marketed or promoted to students on the school campus* during the school day* will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.

Food advertising and marketing is defined[xv] as an oral, written, or graphic statements made for the purpose of promoting the sale of a food or beverage product made by the producer, manufacturer, seller, or any other entity with a commercial interest in the product. This term includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Brand names, trademarks, logos or tags, except when placed on a physically present food or beverage product or its container.
- Displays, such as on vending machine exteriors.
- Corporate brand, logo, name, or trademark on school equipment, such as marquees, message boards, scoreboards, or backboards
- Corporate brand, logo, name, or trademark on cups used for beverage dispensing, menu boards, coolers, trash cans, and other food service equipment; as well as on posters, book covers, pupil assignment books, or school supplies displayed, distributed, offered, or sold by the school.
- Advertisements in school publications or school mailings.
- Free product samples, taste tests, or coupons of a product, or free samples displaying advertising of a product.

Physical Activity

Children and adolescents should participate in 60 minutes of physical activity every day. A substantial percentage of students' physical activity can be provided through a comprehensive, school-based physical activity program (CSPAP) that includes these components: physical education, recess, classroom-based physical activity, walk and bicycle to school, and out-of-school time activities and the district is committed to providing these opportunities. Schools will ensure that these varied opportunities are in addition to, and not as a substitute for, physical education (addressed in "Physical Education" subsection). All schools are encouraged to participate in *Let's Move! Active Schools* (www.letsmoveschools.org) in order to successfully address all CSPAP areas.

Physical activity during the school day (including but not limited to recess, physical activity breaks, or physical education) **will not be withheld** as punishment for any reason (*This does not include participation on sports teams that have specific academic requirements*). The school will provide teachers and other school staff with a [list of ideas](#) for alternative ways to discipline students.

To the extent practicable, RCS will ensure that its grounds and facilities are safe and that equipment is available to students to be active. RCS will conduct necessary inspections and repairs.

Physical Education

RCS will provide students with physical education, using an age-appropriate, sequential physical education curriculum consistent with national and state standards for physical education. The physical education curriculum will promote the benefits of a physically active lifestyle and will help students develop skills to engage in lifelong healthy habits, as well as incorporate essential health education concepts (discussed in the “*Essential Physical Activity Topics in Health Education*” subsection).

All students will be provided equal opportunity to participate in physical education classes. RCS will make appropriate accommodations to allow for equitable participation for all students and will adapt physical education classes and equipment as necessary.

RCS **elementary students** in each grade will receive physical activity for at least 60-89 minutes per week throughout the school year.

RCS **secondary students** (middle school) are required to take the equivalent of one academic year of physical education.

The RCS physical education program will promote student physical fitness through individualized fitness and activity assessments (via the [Presidential Youth Fitness Program](#) or other appropriate assessment tool) and will use criterion-based reporting for each student.

Essential Physical Activity Topics in Health Education

RCS will work to include the following essential topics on physical activity in its health curriculum:

- The physical, psychological, or social benefits of physical activity
- How physical activity can contribute to a healthy weight
- How physical activity can contribute to the academic learning process
- How an inactive lifestyle contributes to chronic disease
- Health-related fitness, that is, cardiovascular endurance, muscular endurance, muscular strength, flexibility, and body composition
- Differences between physical activity, exercise, and fitness
- Phases of an exercise session, that is, warm up, workout, and cool down
- Overcoming barriers to physical activity
- Decreasing sedentary activities, such as TV watching

§ Opportunities for physical activity in the community

§ Preventing injury during physical activity

§ Weather-related safety, for example, avoiding heat stroke, hypothermia, and sunburn while being physically active

§ How much physical activity is enough, that is, determining frequency, intensity, time, and type of physical activity

- § Developing an individualized physical activity and fitness plan
- § Monitoring progress toward reaching goals in an individualized physical activity plan
- § Dangers of using performance-enhancing drugs, such as steroids
- § Social influences on physical activity, including media, family, peers, and culture
- § How to find valid information or services related to physical activity and fitness
- § How to influence, support, or advocate for others to engage in physical activity
- § How to resist peer pressure that discourages physical activity

Recess (Elementary)

Riverview will offer at least **20 minutes of recess** on all or most days during the school year. If recess is offered before lunch, schools will have appropriate hand-washing facilities and/or hand-sanitizing mechanisms located just inside/outside the cafeteria to ensure proper hygiene prior to eating and students are required to use these mechanisms before eating. Hand-washing time, as well as time to put away coats/hats/gloves, will be built into the recess transition period/timeframe before students enter the cafeteria.

Outdoor recess will be offered when weather is feasible for outdoor play. In the event that the school or district must conduct **indoor recess**, teachers and staff will work to follow the indoor recess guidelines that promote physical activity for students, to the extent practicable. Recess will complement, not substitute, physical education class. Recess monitors or teachers will encourage students to be active, and will serve as role models by being physically active alongside the students whenever feasible.

Physical Activity Breaks (Elementary and Secondary)

RCS recognizes that students are more attentive and ready to learn if provided with periodic breaks when they can be physically active or stretch. Thus, students will be offered **periodic opportunities** to be active or to stretch throughout the day on all or most days during a typical school week. The school recommends teachers provide short (3-5 minute) physical activity breaks to students during and between classroom time. These physical activity breaks will complement, not substitute, for physical education class, recess, and class transition periods.

RCS will provide resources and links to resources, tools, and technology with ideas for physical activity breaks. Resources and ideas are available through [USDA](#) and the [Alliance for a Healthier Generation](#).

Active Academics

Teachers will work to incorporate movement and kinesthetic learning approaches into “core” subject instruction when possible (e.g., science, math, language arts, social studies, and others) and do their part to limit sedentary behavior during the school day.

RCS will support classroom teachers incorporating physical activity and employing kinesthetic learning approaches into core subjects by providing access to annual professional development opportunities and resources, including information on leading activities, activity options, as well as making available background material on the connections between learning and movement.

Teachers will serve as role models by being physically active alongside the students whenever feasible.

Before and After School Activities

RCS offers opportunities for students to participate in physical activity either before and/or after the school day (or both) through a variety of methods. The school will encourage students to be physically active before and after school by offering extra-curricular athletic opportunities to middle school students, and physically active Tidewatch programs each trimester.

Active Transport

RCS will support active transport to and from school, such as walking or biking. The school will encourage this behavior by engaging in *six or more* of the activities below; including but not limited to:

- Promotional activities such as participation in International Walk to School Week, National Walk and Bike to School Week
- A bicycle rack for secure bike storage
- Crosswalks exist on streets leading to schools
- Documentation of number of children walking and or biking to and from school
- Creation and distribution of maps of school environment (e.g., sidewalks, crosswalks, roads, pathways, bike racks, etc.)

Other Activities that Promote Student Wellness

RCS will work to integrate wellness activities across the entire school setting, not just in the cafeteria, other food and beverage venues, and physical activity facilities. The school will coordinate and integrate other initiatives related to physical activity, physical education, nutrition, and other wellness components so all efforts are complementary, not duplicative, and work towards the same set of goals and objectives promoting student well-being, optimal development, and strong educational outcomes.

RCS is encouraged to coordinate content across curricular areas that promote student health, such as teaching nutrition concepts in mathematics, with consultation provided by either the school's curriculum experts.

All efforts related to obtaining federal, state, or association recognition for efforts, or grants/funding opportunities for healthy school environments will be coordinated with and complementary of the wellness policy, including but not limited to ensuring the involvement of the SWC.

All school-sponsored events will adhere to the wellness policy. All school-sponsored wellness events will include physical activity opportunities.

Community Partnerships

RCS will continue to develop relationships with community partners (i.e. hospitals, universities/colleges, local businesses, etc.) in support of this wellness policy's implementation. Existing and new community partnerships and sponsorships will be evaluated to ensure that they are consistent with the wellness policy and its goals.

Community Health Promotion and Engagement

RCS will promote to parents/caregivers, families, and the general community the benefits of and approaches for healthy eating and physical activity throughout the school year. Families will be informed

and invited to participate in school-sponsored activities and will receive information about health promotion efforts.

As described in the “Community Involvement, Outreach, and Communications” subsection, the school will use electronic mechanisms (such as email or displaying notices on the school’s website), as well as non-electronic mechanisms, (such as newsletters, presentations to parents, or sending information home to parents), to ensure that all families are actively notified of opportunities to participate in school-sponsored activities and receive information about health promotion efforts.

Staff Wellness and Health Promotion

The SWC will have a staff wellness subcommittee that focuses on staff wellness issues, identifies and disseminates wellness resources, and performs other functions that support staff wellness in coordination with human resources staff.

The school will work to implement strategies to support staff in actively promoting and modeling healthy eating and physical activity behaviors.

Professional Learning

When feasible, the school will offer access to annual professional learning opportunities and resources for staff to increase knowledge and skills about promoting healthy behaviors in the classroom and school (e.g., increasing the use of kinesthetic teaching approaches or incorporating nutrition lessons into math class). Professional learning will help school staff understand the connections between academics and health and the ways in which health and wellness are integrated into ongoing district reform or academic improvement plans/efforts.

Glossary:

Extended School Day - time during before and after-school activities that includes clubs, intramural sports, band and choir practice, drama rehearsals, etc.

School Campus - areas that are owned or leased by the school and used at any time for school-related activities such as the school building or on the school campus, including on the outside of the school building, school buses or other vehicles used to transport students, athletic fields, and stadiums (e.g. on scoreboards, coolers, cups, and water bottles), or parking lots.

School Day - midnight the night before to 30 minutes after the end of the instructional day.

Triennial – recurring every three years.

Appendix A: School Level Contacts

Name	Title	Email address	Role
Lisa Eklund	Executive Chef	leklund@riverviewcharterschool.org	Wellness Policy Coordinator School Nutrition Representative
Alison Thomas	School Director	athomas@riverviewcharterschool.org	Leadership Representative
Mike Bridge	Athletic Director	mbridge@riverviewcharterschool.org	PE Representatives
Cathy Bridgers Patience Gordon Heidi VanEsselstyn	School Nurse Counselor Counselor	cbridgersa@riverviewcharterschool.org pgordon@riverviewcharterschool.org hvanesselstyn@riverviewcharterschool.org	Physical & Mental Health Representatives

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Recommended snacks and lunch items

Brain Boosters:

- Sunbutter/Soybutter (please no peanuts or products)
- Apples
- Bananas
- Oranges
- Kiwi
- Melon/Cantalope
- Blueberries
- Strawberries
- Carrots
- Celery (ants on a log)
- Cauliflower
- Broccoli
- Raisins and Craisins
- Trail Mix (no peanuts)
- Granola Bars (no peanuts)
- Yogurt
- Cheese Stick
- Tortilla Chips w/ Salsa, guacamole, or bean dip
- Whole Grain Crackers or Baked Chips
- Air Popped Popcorn
- Natural Turkey
- Natural Ham
- 100% Juices

Brain Busters:

- Cookies
- Pastries
- Chocolate
- Chips
- Hot Dogs
- Fast Food
- Soda
- Non 100% Juice

Suggestions for Healthy (non-food) Classroom Celebrations and Rewards

Group/Class Rewards

- Extra recess time
- Pick different seats to sit in for a day
- Teacher wearing a silly outfit or hat (let the class decide...one reader even said a teacher wore her wedding dress to school!)

- Afternoon movie (as an individual reward one student could be allowed to select and bring in the movie for the class)
- Lunch in the classroom
- Dress up days...let the class vote!
Pajama day (can also incorporate sleeping bags/blankets)
- Crazy hair day
- Backward day (wear clothes backward and even follow the class schedule backward!)
- Camp out day (kids bring sleeping bags and teacher brings a tent)
- Crazy hat day
- An art or craft party
- A game the class plays together (like bingo or kickball)
- Plant some flowers or plants together at the school
- Paint birdhouses together to put up at the school
- Dance party with music

Individual Rewards

- Lunch or recess time with the Director or favorite teacher/staff • guest reader to read to the class
- Sit with a friend from another class at lunch
- Gift certificate to the book fair
- Sit in the teacher's chair or at their desk for the day
- Sit next to a friend instead of in your own seat for the day
- Be the "special helper" for the day (running errands to the office, line leader, etc.)
- Student asked to actually read the morning announcements
- Choose the story for story time
- "Stinky feet" which means you get to take your shoes off in class
- Give out "play money" to students that they can spend in a class-wide auction later in the year (auction items can include games, books, etc. and be donated by parents)
- A "no uniform for the day" pass (approval needed)
-

Birthday Celebrations

- New book donated to class library by birthday student with their parent as the guest reader
- Class makes fruit smoothies together arranged through Executive Chef (advance notice)
- Small goodie bags with stickers/activities given out to classmates
- Each student is given supplies to make a small craft together
- Birthday card(s) made by the other students
- Popcorn birthday parties (popcorn is a whole-grain food) served in "popcorn cones" that the kids make themselves out of paper arranged through Executive Chef with school's popcorn machine (advance notice)