

**MEDFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**DATE ADOPTED: June 20, 2013      FILE SECTOR: RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY**  
**DATE REVISED: August 18, 2016      POLICY TITLE: CODE OF CONDUCT**  
**DATE REVISED: March 22, 2021**

Rural Virtual Academy (RVA) shall not discriminate in standards and rules of behavior, including student harassment, or in disciplinary measures, including suspension and expulsion, on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, color, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Discrimination complaints shall be handled in accordance with established procedures.

Students are expected to abide by any and all established codes of conduct, board of education (BOE) policies, conduct/behavior as outlined by the student handbook and as stated in rules established by administration. Students may be disciplined for conduct violations in accordance with provisions of codes of conduct, school rules, student handbook provisions, BOE policies and state law.

RVA is committed to maintaining a favorable academic atmosphere and every member of the school community is expected to cooperate in this mission. Faculty, including assistants, self-employed persons, teachers and administration, must work to create positive learning climates and maintain proper order in the school. Along with these efforts, RVA ask that all students attend school ready and willing to learn and abide by the rules and expectations of the school. In addition, parents should be aware of their children's activities, performances, and behavior, and are asked to cooperate and consult with the school to prevent or address problems.

**CROSS REFERENCE: RVA-IIBGA, JF, JFCH, JFCJ, JFCJA, JFG, JFI, JGA**  
**LEGAL REFERENCE: §118.164 & 120.13(1)(a), Wis. Stats. and 20 USC 1415(k)**

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This Code of Classroom Conduct applies to all students. This policy can be superseded by other legal documentation deeming other appropriate disciplinary actions such as described in an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or court order.

For the purposes of this policy, “school” includes all activities sanctioned and supervised by RVA faculty or property thereof owned, maintained, and/or operated by RVA, Medford Area Public School District (MAPSD).

**Reasons for Student Discipline**

Examples of behavior which would constitute a violation in the code of conduct and possibly result in some form of school discipline would include:

- Not participating in school (lack of communication/ attendance).
- Academic dishonesty (plagiarism/cheating).
- Inappropriate behavior or actions during online instructional classes, activities or events.
- Inappropriate behavior or actions during school in-person instructional classes, activities or events.
- Disrespectful, inappropriate conduct and/or insubordination (not following reasonable directives in a timely manner).
- Possession of weapons (at school events).
- Possession of illegal or other drugs, alcohol, tobacco or other banned substances.
- Vulgar/ obscene language, gestures, and/or displays. (on-/off- line)
- Sexual harassment.
- Discriminatory harassment.
- Damage of school property.
- Violating policy RVA-IIBGA’s *Condition and Rules for Use* for internet safety and conduct.
- Causing or participating in the physical, psychological, emotional or reputational harm of another person or the school.
- Any behavior that threatens a likelihood of substantial disruption in school, including interfering with the rights of other students to participate fully in school or co-curricular activities.

When school discipline is levied, the reason must be consistent with provisions outlined above, reasonable, serve a legitimate educational purpose and be nondiscriminatory.

RVA does not discriminate in standards and rules of behavior, including student harassment, on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation of physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Any person who believes that student discrimination has occurred may file a complaint in accordance with established district procedures.

### **Disciplinary Dispositions**

Discipline referrals to school administration will be reviewed on an individual basis. RVA believes discipline problems are best resolved expediently and closest to their source by the parties most directly involved. It is recognized that discipline problems are best resolved with minimal administrative interventions. In the best interests of the student and the school, several disciplinary options are available. These consequences may be applied in any order and in varying degree depending upon the severity and/ or repetition of the violation.

- Verbal or written warning: A student may be given verbal or written reprimands.
- Parent(s)/guardian(s)/ faculty meeting: A meeting may be scheduled to bring together the student, parent(s)/guardian(s) and RVA faculty in order to review concerns, determine future course of action, and find common solutions.
- In-school suspension (ISS): A student may be required to spend time at RVA office with school administration. The student would not be allowed to participate in any school sanctioned event during the time the suspension was being served.
- External/ out-of-school suspension (OSS): Student access to online programming can be shut-off resulting in the student's inability to participate academically. In addition, the student would not be allowed to participate in any school sanctioned events during the time the suspension was being served.
- Removal/ withdrawal: A student with chronic or severe behavior problems may be removed from school and remanded back to the resident school district.
- Expulsion: A student may be expelled from MAPSD or participating consortium district if they exhibit conduct which endangers the property, health, or safety of others at school or other behavior that constitutes grounds for expulsion under §120.13.
- Specific consequence: A specific consequence may be issued by administration upon review of the infraction. As examples, student computer use could be suspended, participation in a specific school event could be suspended, letter of apologies, or other forms of restorative justice may be required.

When a student is referred for a violation(s) of this Code of Conduct, RVA faculty person shall report the student to the administrator or designee and inform him/her of the reason(s) for the student's disciplinary referral. A written version for the reason of referral may be required to be submitted by the faculty person to the administrator.

If disciplinary action is determined to be appropriate, the administrator shall inform the student of the reason(s) for the referral and will allow the student the opportunity to present his/her version of the situation. The administrator shall then determine the appropriate discipline.

**Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Notification Procedures**

RVA Administrator will notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of a minor student when a referral for a violation in code of conduct has lead to the determination for disciplinary consequence. Should a consequence be levied, then the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified first by attempt through phone and for certain in writing within 24 hours.

**Exceptions**

Instances may occur when faculty refers a student to the administrator or designee, other than described in this Code of Conduct. In these cases, it shall be the administrator's or designee's determination as to whether parent/guardian notification is required.