

OLIVE PEIRCE STUDENT HANDBOOK 2017-2018

Olive Peirce Middle School
A Professional Learning Community
A California School To Watch
A California Distinguished School
1521 Hanson Lane, Ramona, CA 92065
www.ramonausd.net/opms

Main Office:	760-787-2400	FAX: 760-788-5014	Student Services:	760-787-2471
Absence Hotline:	760-787-2404		Health Office:	760-787-2406
	* All absences must be phoned in before noon.		Campus Safety:	760-787-2430
Attendance:	760-787-2452		Library:	760-787-2427

WHO'S WHO IN THE OPMS PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

PRINCIPAL	Pauline Leavitt	COUNSELORS' ADMIN. ASST.	Kathy Savage
PRINCIPAL'S ADMIN. ASST.	Barbara Boryla	ATTENDANCE	Karen Neuffer
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	Jennifer Brown	CLERICAL SUPPORT	Vicki Miller
ASSIST. PRINCIPAL'S ADMIN. ASST.	Stacey Alcorn	CAMPUS SAFETY TEAM	Marc Boykins/William Michel
8 th GRADE COUNSELOR	Michele Mauney	TEENS AFTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR	Connie Ortiz
7 th GRADE COUNSELOR	Leslie Pequegnat	ASB	Leslie Pequegnat
		LIBRARIAN	Sandi McCreary

A PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY CULTURE

We are committed to a shared vision of academic success and achievement for every student. We believe relationships with our students are a TOP priority! Our teachers provide a positive learning environment and reinforce appropriate behavior through, celebrations, recognition certificates, praise and other forms of positive recognition in the classroom. Olive Peirce Middle School students are well-behaved, cooperative, and contributing members of our community and take PRIDE in the climate and culture of our school.

Disruptive behavior, vulgar or inappropriate language, bullying or harassment is NEVER acceptable and will result in disciplinary action.

OPMS MISSION STATEMENT AND PLEDGE

The MISSION of the Olive Peirce Middle School Professional Learning Community is to develop the collective capacity of our staff to work together to achieve the fundamental purpose of our school; high levels of learning and achievement for all students... NO exceptions! We will create a culture of college readiness for every student and ensure every student is connected to a caring adult at OPMS.

OPMS CORE VALUES AND BELIEFS

1. We believe in a safe and caring environment where we demonstrate pride in our campus and treat each other with dignity, honesty, kindness, and respect.
2. We believe in the uniqueness and worth of every human being, recognizing individual needs and celebrating diversity.
3. We believe in the triangular strength of a collaborative relationship among staff, students and home.
4. We believe that learning is a lifetime commitment for everyone. The love of and need for learning is at the heart of our school.
5. We believe success is a result of ongoing exploration of creativity, risk, and personal growth. We will support and encourage all to reach beyond the comforts of what is and to strive for what can be.



OPMS HOURS: 7:50-2:10

OFFICE HOURS: 7:00-3:30

Students should not arrive on the OPMS campus any earlier than 7:15. The regular school day ends at 2:10, and students are to be **off campus** or seated on their bus by 2:15, unless they are attending the TEENS program or engaged in an adult-supervised after-school activity. **Students who continue to loiter on the OPMS campus may be subject to disciplinary action.**

OPMS INSTRUCTIONAL BELL SCHEDULE

Monday Schedule

7:50-8:02	OP TODAY	12 Minutes
8:02-8:24	ACE	22 Minutes
8:29-9:15	2 nd Period	46 Minutes
9:20-10:06	3 rd Period	46 Minutes
10:11-10:57	4 th Period	46 Minutes
11:02-11:48	5 th Period	46 Minutes
<u>11:48-12:28</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>40 Minutes</u>
12:33-1:19	6 th Period	46 Minutes
1:24-2:10	7 th Period	46 Minutes

Tuesday - Friday Block Schedule

7:50-8:05	OP TODAY	15 Minutes
8:05-8:30	Literacy Block	25 Minutes
8:30-8:55	ACE	25 Minutes
9:00-10:20	1 st Block	80 Minutes
10:20-10:35	Nutrition Break	15 Minutes
10:40-12:00	2 ND Block	80 Minutes
<u>12:00-12:45</u>	<u>Lunch/RTI²</u>	<u>45 Minutes</u>
12:50-2:10	3 rd Block	80 Minutes

Rotating Schedule:

Tuesday: ACE, 2, 4, 6
Wednesday: ACE, 3, 5, 7

Thursday: ACE, 2, 6, 4
Friday: ACE, 3, 7, 5

YOU CAN'T LEARN AND SUCCEED UNLESS YOU ARE HERE EVERY DAY...

***ATTENDANCE/TRUANCY/TARDIES**

You must have an **85% or higher** attendance rate every quarter in order to participate in extra-curricular activities, play sports, attend assemblies, or participate in Harbor Cruise/Promotion and 7th Grade Picnic. That means you **CAN NOT** be absent from school for **7 or more** days during any quarter. (This **does not** include extreme illnesses or injuries.) **YOU MUST BE HERE IN ORDER TO LEARN AND GROW!**

Parents, please report your child's absence and tardies before noon each day.

The OPMS ABSENCE LINE is 787-2404 or email kneuffer@ramonausd.net

Unverified absences are considered truancies! EC Section 48260 (a) A pupil subject to compulsory full-time education or to compulsory continuation education who is absent from school without a valid excuse three full days in one school year or tardy or absent for more than a 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year, or any combination thereof, shall be classified as a truant and shall be reported to the attendance supervisor or to the superintendent of the school district.

You can help your child by scheduling appointments and vacations after school hours whenever possible and by notifying the attendance office in advance when your student must miss five or more days of school so that we can offer an independent study contract.

We encourage you to monitor your student's attendance record online at

<https://powerschool.ramonausd.net/public/>

***OUR SCHOOL DAY BEGINS AT 7:50**

All OPMS students are expected to be in their seats **BEFORE** the tardy bell rings. **Tardies** will result in your citizenship grade being lowered and lunch intervention assignments. If you continue to make the poor choice of being tardy, you will be placed on the **Choices List**. Students who develop a pattern of continued unexcused tardies or absences may be referred to RUSD's SARB (School Attendance Review Board). Absences that are **NOT** cleared will be turned into a **TRUANCY**. Students who are absent from school without parent permission are **TRUANT**. If you are tardy over thirty minutes, you will be marked truant.

***TARDY TO CLASS**

Students must accept the responsibility to be on time to their classes. Tardiness disrupts the instructional program and is not acceptable behavior. If you are tardy to school in the morning, check in at Mrs. Neuffer's desk for further instructions. Excessive tardiness may result in disciplinary action and a referral to the SARB (School Attendance Review Board.)

***LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY**

Parents must call the office or send a written excuse from home. The student will be issued a permission slip to leave school grounds. You must report to the attendance office when you return to school and get a re-admit slip. *Only adults listed on the emergency card with a photo ID will be able to check a student out of school.*

*** CLOSED CAMPUS**

OPMS operates a closed campus. This means that no student may leave the school grounds during the school day without first obtaining permission. **Parents are URGED to make doctor or dental appointments after school hours.** If a student must leave because of illness or any other reason, he or she must be signed out by a parent or guardian at the Main Office. *No student visitors under 18 years.*

A CULTURE OF COLLEGE READINESS

Middle School creates the pathway to college and the workforce. The U.S. Department of Education now recommends that students begin planning for college as early as 6th grade. Middle school students need to be prepared for the increasing rigor demanded by high school and beyond. **EVERY** student in the OPMS PLC will receive a rigorous education that will prepare them for high school, college, and the workforce.

KEEP THE MAIN THING THE MAIN THING... LEARNING!

We are committed to the academic achievement and success of every student. We believe ALL of our students can demonstrate proficient levels of mastery in every content area. We use research-based strategies to ensure you will achieve academic success.

All students and teachers belong to a collaborative Vertical Team that includes: English, Math, Science, History, P.E., and Elective or Support class.

*** PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES (A.K.A. Homework)**

To ensure your success at OPMS, you must complete your **practice opportunities** on a daily basis. Research proves that practice opportunities are important to your education and establish life-long habits that lead to future success. **Practice Opportunities are assigned on a regular basis and you are expected to turn them in when they are due.** Students are provided with a planner to help develop organizational skills. The main purpose of your student planner is to assist you in keeping track of both daily practice and planning for long-range assignments. **It is your responsibility to write down practice opportunities in your planner.**

*** MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES** Students are expected to have pens, pencils, paper and a notebook in which to keep assignments every day. Your ACE notebook is provided for you. You will keep records of your learning data, growth, and SMART Goals in your ACE notebook.

LEARNING is our number-one priority. Teachers will assign lunch support opportunities as needed...if you do not attend an assigned lunch support session, your Citizenship/Effort grade may be lowered.

* SPECIAL AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Students, who excel academically and/or behaviorally, receive special recognition. It is our goal to help students be the best they can be and to reward outstanding citizenship and grades by acknowledging their achievements. Every quarter students are recognized with achievement certificates in their ACE class. **STRIVE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE 4.0 NATION!**

These recognitions include:

- *Student of Month Recognition
- *National Junior Honor Society
- *4.0 Nation
- *Presidential Award (3.5-4.0 GPA for 7 Quarters & exceeded in English and/or Math state testing)
- *Principal's Award (3.5-4.0 GPA 7 Quarters)
- *Perfect Attendance
- *Citizenship (4.0 GPA for 7 Quarters)
- *8th Grade Awards
- *American Legions Award

* **THE LIBRARY** The OPMS LIBRARY/MEDIA Center is open from 7:30-2:15 M-F.

1. You are expected to work in a quiet, respectful manner.
2. You are responsible for keeping your books in good condition and for the costs to repair or replace damaged, lost, or stolen items.
3. Check our Library Website for more information: http://opms.ramonausd.net/our_school/opms_library

*DOING THE RIGHT THING WITH TECHNOLOGY...



We know that technology access can promote learning and interaction in the classroom AND we expect our students to be courteous and make good choices when using any technology on campus.

- ★ Cell phones are permitted, but are not to be used during the academic day, unless you have permission from an OPMS staff member.
- ★ We expect that cell phones and other devices are put away and turned off. YOU are responsible for their safety and security.
- ★ Poor choices and violations of our expectations may result in confiscation of your cell phone. In this case, your parent or guardian will need to come to campus to retrieve the cell phone from Student Services.

OLIVE PEIRCE MIDDLE SCHOOL IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOST, STOLEN OR MISSING TECHNOLOGY DEVICES. WE WILL NOT REIMBURSE A STUDENT FOR A MISSING DEVICE.

* **THE INTERNET @ SCHOOL:** Use of the Internet is curriculum-based and all students will receive instruction on appropriate use and ethics before they will be allowed access. Before access is granted, students and parents are required to sign a **"RAMONET User Information Registration"** form and register their devices. This is done through the registration and Information Verification process.

* POWERSCHOOL

You and your parents can check your learning progress, your attendance and many other details about your growth by logging on to PowerSchool: <http://powerschool.ramonausd.net>

In PowerSchool, You can:

- ★ check grades, missing assignments, and monitor your progress
- ★ check your attendance
- ★ get messages from the school
- ★ read announcements from your teachers
- ★ For additional help, contact Sandi McCreary, OPMS Librarian @ 787-2427.

DAILY LIFE IN THE OPMS PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

*OP TODAY



Every morning at 7:50 a.m., students are welcomed to OPMS by “tuning in” to our **OP TODAY** broadcast. Our student anchors inform our PLC of upcoming events, important dates, and introduce/interview fellow students and staff. **You are expected to pay close attention to the broadcast...keep your planner out and be ready to note important dates or events.**

*DRESS FOR SUCCESS

The **Bulldog Dress Code** is designed to ensure students dress for the purpose of **learning** as a middle school scholar. Students are **expected** to dress neatly, and wear clothing that follows the standards of common decency and respect. This means:

1. Pants and tops must cover undergarments, chest, and midriff.
2. *Shorts, skirts, or dresses must be an appropriate length for school (mid thigh).*
3. Clothing may **NOT** display alcohol/drug/tobacco logos/profane language or sexual innuendoes.
4. Clothing may **NOT** promote illegal or discriminatory practices/gang affiliation.
5. **NO** sunglasses, hats, or hoods may be worn indoors. Outdoors, hats must be worn as they were intended.
6. Wallet chains or any other chains/belts that hang (belts must be contained within loops)
7. No belts, wristbands, or jewelry with **SPIKES**.

Students who are not dressed for success will be asked to call home to ask parents to bring appropriate clothing or asked to change into “OPMS Loaner” clothing. *If you are unable to bring a change of clothes your child will be asked to put on their PE clothes.* Additional items may be added to the dress code throughout the year. Parents will be notified of any changes through a newsletter or an All-Call.

On PICTURE DAYS...

NO hats or sunglasses, and ensure your clothing meets our Dress for Success Expectations

*HALL PASSES

You must always have a HALL PASS WHEN MOVING ABOUT CAMPUS. Students are not permitted outside the classroom during class periods unless they are accompanied by a teacher or have a pass. Planner hall passes must be signed and timed by the teacher, administrator, or office staff.

*WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

The OPMS cafeteria provides hot lunches and sandwiches on a daily basis. In addition, there are four snack carts serving pizza, nachos, burritos, hamburgers, and other snacks. We have the best food service team in San Diego. *We expect you to treat all teammates at the carts and inside the PAC with courtesy and respect.* (That means picking up your trash and always saying, “thank you”, “please,” and “you’re welcome.”)

You may eat your food in designated areas within the blue lines. **PLEASE THROW ALL YOUR TRASH IN TRASH CANS.** Those students who choose not to maintain a clean and beautiful campus will be assigned **Campus Beautification** or **Ecology Service** during lunch, or attend **Lunch Intervention** during their normal lunch time.

It's important to remain in the designated areas during lunchtime. Campus safety team members are there to help you be safe and to ensure an orderly campus during lunch. **We expect you to follow all directions from our Campus Safety Team...your safety is a top priority.**

*PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXPECTATIONS



All students are expected to participate in P.E., unless they have a note from a doctor or parent/guardian. You may be excused from physical education for up to three days with a note from a parent or guardian. *Exemptions that exceed three days need to be certified by a physician.*

You are also required to be dressed in your P.E. uniform every day, including tennis shoes. Students excused from participation are not excused from dressing out unless there is a severe disability which makes dressing out impossible. In cold weather, sweats may be worn when so designated by the P.E. teachers. When you are absent from class for any reason (absent from school, school activities) it will negatively affect your grade. Points lost may be made-up during P.E. make-up days or by completing a P.E. make-up activity available on the teacher's webpage.

PE LOCKERS All students are assigned gym lockers for the year. Lockers are the property of the school and may be opened by school personnel at any time. Master combination locks are sold in the gym. All belongings must be locked up inside the locker at all times. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Students are not allowed in the locker room without adult supervision.

Students are responsible for their possessions when using the lockers in the PE locker room. A tall locker is provided for each student in which to lock their backpacks and regular clothing during P.E. Clothes and/or personal items left outside of a P.E. locker are an open invitation to theft, for which the school is not responsible.

*TRANSPORTATION

BUSES



- ★ The privilege of riding the bus to school may be revoked if safety rules are not observed.
- ★ Students must go directly to the buses as soon as they are dismissed from school.
- ★ Misbehavior may result in suspension from riding the bus for a specified period of time.

★ **YOU MAY NOT TAKE BALLOONS ON THE BUS.**

*BICYCLES and SKATEBOARDS



- ★ Students may ride bicycles/skateboards / scooters to school if safety rules are followed.
- ★ *Bicycles/skateboards/scooters must be walked on and off the school grounds.*
- ★ Helmets are required by law and must be worn.
- ★ Bicycle locks are required.
- ★ All bicycles/skateboards/scooters need to be locked up in the bicycle/skateboard/scooter area inside the blue gates.

*LOST AND FOUND

Small items, jewelry, notebooks, and clothing are located in the Front Office. PLEASE check the Clothing Lost and Found regularly. Each year we send many items of clothing to charities because students don't pick up their lost items.

*HEALTH OFFICE AND MEDICATION

The Health Office is located in the Main Office by the west entrance door. If you need to take medication during school hours, please be advised that all medications administered at school must be prescribed by a physician even if they are sold over the counter. **State law requires** that the physician must state the dosage and related information on the appropriate district form. These forms are available in our health office. Parents are required to sign a release allowing school personnel to dispense medication.

THINGS NOT PART OF DAILY LIFE ON THE OPMS CAMPUS...

1. **Anything which interferes with the learning at OPMS or becomes a hazard to the safety of others is not allowed.**
2. Do not bring knives, lighters, matches, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapor paraphernalia or alcohol.
3. Do not bring large sums of money to school.
4. **Cell phone cameras and video/audio recording devices may not be used without staff permission.**
5. **Lunch/drink deliveries made to the office will be held there until the student retrieves them. If the items are still in the office at the end of the school day, they will be disposed of. We will NOT interrupt classes or seek your student for lunch/drink deliveries.**
6. Balloon and Flower Delivery: These items draw attention away from learning. If they are delivered, they will be kept in the office until after school at which time you may get them. **BALLOONS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON RUSD BUSES.**
7. **Any horseplay, roughhousing, or physical contact resulting in injury will result in consequences.**



STUDENT EXPECTATIONS FOR LEARNING AND CITIZENSHIP

Our Professional Learning Community has high expectations for student achievement and behavior. We are equally devoted to our belief in **academic achievement** and **results** for **ALL** students.

***HARASSMENT/BULLYING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**

Harassment/bullying can include, but is not limited to:

- excessive teasing, spreading rumors, intimidating looks & actions
- threatening remarks, comments to peers and adults, verbal threats
- physically touching, pushing someone in an attempt to frighten him/her
- inappropriate social media pictures or text, threatening text messages
- threats on internet sites that are referring to actions that are to occur at school

Any student engaging in these behaviors will receive disciplinary actions that may result in suspension from school.

When students make poor choices that obstruct learning, we are committed to intervention programs that reinforce a positive, trusting, respectful culture. It is the goal of all our behavior interventions to build a school culture that is positive, proactive, supportive, respectful and trusting. Parent support is crucial to the success of Olive Peirce and helps us ensure EVERY child has a positive and successful experience at OPMS. The following three interventions are utilized at OPMS to assist students with making positive choices:

LUNCH INTERVENTION Our lunch intervention program runs during LUNCH and is facilitated by our Counselors and Campus Safety Team members. Students who are assigned to lunch intervention must report to the Choices Intervention room. Students will be given an opportunity to eat lunch. Each week, a theme is selected with students completing a writing assignment (and/or) engaging in a discussion with their peers related to the chosen theme. Topics for the year include respect, honesty, responsibility, courage, gratitude, compassion, justice, perseverance, and making positive choices.

CHOICES PROGRAM For repeated or severe choices, students may be assigned to spend the class period or entire day in the **CHOICES Program**. The primary goal is to help students build assets that will support positive learning. Throughout their time in CHOICES, students are taught how to reflect upon their decisions, set goals, and take ownership to improve their behavior. Students also receive intervention services and are provided with an opportunity to develop the necessary tools and assets to become a positive leader and contributor to OPMS. In addition to working on these interventions, students are also engaged in class work provided by their teachers.

CHOICES LIST If a student has made a number of “poor choices”, the student will be placed on the **Choices List** for an entire quarter. Being on the **Choices List** prevents students from participating in any school activity outside of the classroom, and could lead to exemption from 8th grade activities and/or promotion ceremony. 7th graders could find themselves excluded from the end of the year activity. If a student is placed on the Choices List because of failing grades or unsatisfactory citizenship on a quarterly report card, the student will remain on the list for the entire following quarter. The following “Poor Choices” will result in a student’s placement on the list:

- ★ **CITIZENSHIP:** Below 2.0 G.P.A. on the previous grading period (Administration reserves the right to determine eligibility)
- ★ **GRADES:** Below 2.0 G.P.A. on the previous grading period
- ★ **REFERRALS:** At administrator discretion
- ★ **SUSPENSION:** Any suspension during current grading period
- ★ **ATTENDANCE:** Students whose unexcused absences exceed 15% of the school year to date.
- ★ **“POOR CHOICES” OR A REFERRAL FROM A GUEST TEACHER:** Automatic placement on Choices List

OPMS Administration reserves the right to place students permanently on the “Choices” List for repeated or severe offenses.

***EXTRA CURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY** All students are allowed to try out for any after school sport, field trip, or performance. To be eligible to participate in any sport, field trip, or performance (band, choir, etc.), a student must maintain a **2.0 GPA** and have **no N’s/U’s in Citizenship or D’s/F’s**. If a student is declared ineligible, she/he will be placed on probation with the team for field trips or for performances until eligibility criteria is met and eligibility is reinstated.

***8TH GRADE HARBOR CRUISE** The OPMS PLC provides 8th graders with an exciting evening of dancing, celebrating, and cruising San Diego Bay for two hours. In order to participate, 8th graders must **NOT** be on the 4th quarter **“Choices” List**, and must have an 85% or above attendance.

***CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION IN 8TH GRADE PROMOTION CEREMONY**

The OPMS Community provides 8th grade students an exciting opportunity to participate in a distinguished promotion ceremony. In order to be eligible for participation, 8th grade students must meet or exceed academic and behavior benchmark standards.

- **2.0 or higher GPA**
- **85% or more attendance for the school year**
- **NOT on CHOICES List**
- **Discipline referrals**

Administration reserves the right to remove students from the promotion ceremony for repeated or severe offenses.

T.E.E.N.S AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Mission Statement: *To encourage our students to broaden their educational experience with the assistance of daily homework tutoring, enrichment programs, and to participate in one or more of our many health/sport programs.*

OPMS has an after-school program available to all OPMS students. The TEENS program is open from 2:10-6:00 pm every school day. We have a variety of sports and enrichment programs offered throughout the year such as:

SPORTS PROGRAMS:

Girls Lacrosse, Girls Volleyball, Girls/Boys Basketball, Flag Football, Soccer, Cross Country, Track and Field, Dance and Cheer, Wrestling

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS:

Art/Crafts, Robotics, Cooking, CAM Club, and many others.

A daily nutritional snack is provided for all enrolled participants. **A \$75 donation is requested for the year.** Applications are available on the website, front office, C-4 and E-1.

Tutoring is available for those who need additional assistance with homework or who would like to broaden their educational horizons. It is offered M/T/W/TH 3:30-4:30 p.m.

OPMS Clubs, Teams, Organizations, and Activities...

ASB	CAP	Yearbook	OPT
TEENS	Boys’ Basketball	Girls’ Basketball	Robotics
Track & Field	Volleyball	Wrestling	Cross Country
WEB (Where Everyone Belongs)	Cooking	Flag Football	Soccer
Cross Country	Girls’ Lacrosse	Washington, DC Trip	Catalina Science Trip
ACE Events	Lunchtime Fun	NJHS	

ZERO TOLERANCE

Because we care about you, we will **NEVER** tolerate the use of, or distribution of, or sale of **DRUGS** of any kind! We have specially trained nonaggressive dogs who visit our campus on a random basis throughout the year, and “sniff out” and alert us to the presence of substances prohibited by law or RUSD policy.

ZERO TOLERANCE MEANS...

1. **Zero Tolerance**, as adopted by the Ramona Unified School Board, refers to a policy regarding drugs, alcohol and weapons. Students who violate this policy on a first offense and are found to be under the influence, possession or use of drugs and/or alcohol will be suspended immediately and may be involuntarily transferred to an alternative program.
2. Selling, furnishing, transporting, or transferring drugs and/or alcohol or for a second offense involving the use, possession or influence of drugs and/or alcohol will result in a student being recommended for expulsion from the Ramona Unified School District.
3. Students who are found to have been in possession of a knife, explosive, or other weapon, engaged in the unlawful sale of any controlled substance, involved in robbery or extortion, or caused serious physical injury shall be recommended for expulsion.
4. Students involved in the transference, introduction, possession, or use of any hazardous materials, explosives, firecrackers, (i.e. poppers, snappers), dangerous objects, weapons, or replicas (i.e. air-soft pistols) will be subject to disciplinary procedures which may result in suspension or expulsion.
5. Any student who is in possession of a loaded firearm while on a school campus or school sponsored activity shall be immediately suspended and expelled by the governing board of the school district.
6. **Any infraction of the above mentioned “zero tolerance” policy also requires notification of the appropriate law enforcement agency.**

*SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Students found guilty of committing sexual harassment towards another student, as defined in section 212.5 of California Education Code, may be suspended or expelled. This includes and is not limited to: unwelcome sexual advances, request for favors, and verbal, visual, cyber or physical conduct of a sexual nature. A student who believes he/she has been sexually harassed or who knows of any sexual harassment occurring, should report it immediately to a teacher or a safety team member.

*WHAT DOES “SUSPENSION” MEAN?

Suspension means a student is prohibited from being on a school campus for a specific period of time, not to exceed five consecutive days. Grounds for suspension include:

1. Causing physical injury, verbally intimidating or threatening anyone
All phone threats through text messaging or photos/posting inappropriate pictures or text on internet sites that refer to school, school employees, students or threats at school will be taken very seriously!
2. Possession of any dangerous object
3. Possession, use, selling, or under the influence of a controlled substance
4. Sale of a **look-alike** substance represented to be alcohol or other drugs
5. Robbery/extortion/theft
6. Causing or attempting to damage private or school property
7. Possessing or using tobacco products
8. Obscenity/profanity/vulgarity/disruption/defiance
9. Unlawful possession, offering, arranging, or negotiating to sell any drug paraphernalia
10. Stealing or attempting to steal or knowingly receiving stolen property
11. Possession of an **imitation** firearm
12. Sexual assault or battery/harassment, sexual harassment
13. Threatening a student witness
14. Selling any prescription drug
15. Engaged or attempted to engage in hazing
16. Participated in “hate violence” which is the use of threat to use force because of another person’s race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender, or sexual orientation
17. Terrorist threats

STUDENTS MAY BE EXPELLED FROM RUSD FOR...

1. Possessing, selling, or furnishing a firearm
2. Possessing/brandishing a knife (any weapon with a fixed, sharpened blade) at another person
3. Unlawful possession/selling of any controlled substance
4. Sexual assault or battery
5. Possession of an explosive (destructive device)
6. Causing serious physical injury to another person
7. Robbery or extortion

Special Note: Any student receiving an unreasonable number of discipline referrals may be recommended to an **Administrative Hearing for "Enough Is Enough."** Our commitment to a safe and caring campus is **non-negotiable**.

Parent Involvement

Be sure to stay involved! Some opportunities for you to stay connected in your child's life include:

- ★ PTA
- ★ School Site Counsel
- ★ PowerSchool
- ★ School Activities
- ★ STEM support and donations
- ★ Art support and donations
- ★ School Recognition support
- ★ Maintaining contact with your child's counselor and teachers

Please don't hesitate to contact us at any time! We hold relationships as a top priority and want to ensure that you are involved!