

Rainier Middle School

Student Handbook 2024-25



Home of the Panthers!

Rainier Middle School
30620 116th Ave SE
Auburn, WA 98092

Main Office: (253) 931-4843
Attendance: (253) 931-4843

Administrative Team

Dr. Joseph Williams III, Principal (8th Grade)
Carey Rockey, Assistant Principal (7th Grade)
Alethea Dozier, Assistant Principal (6th Grade)
Kat Sherer, Dean of Students

Counseling Team

Greg Erickson, 8th Grade
Heather Pankratz, 7th Grade
Lani Fejarang, 6th Grade

School Hours: 7:40 AM - 2:10 PM (Tuesday - Friday)
8:40 AM - 2:10 PM (Late Start Mondays)

Website: <http://www.auburn.wednet.edu/rainier>

Family Access: <http://family.auburn.wa-k12.net>

Email: smckee@auburn.wednet.edu for family access login information

Online Payment System: <https://touchbase.auburn.wednet.edu>

Parent Square: <https://www.parentsquare.com/sessions>

WELCOME STUDENTS AND FAMILIES OF RAINIER MIDDLE SCHOOL!

Welcome to Rainier Middle School. We have about 950 students and over 100 staff members. Our school colors are red and black and our school mascot is the Panther. As we begin our 33rd year, we ask you to be a part of maintaining a clean, welcome, and safe campus.

We are committed to a safe, kind, restorative, and learning-focused environment that fosters positive relationships through full-implementation of positive behavior supports, staff collaboration, data-driven programs, and culturally relevant teaching. We are devoted to a respectful, responsible, and equitable community for ALL students.

You will be held accountable for following the rules and procedures as outlined in the student handbook. Depending on the frequency and severity of the offenses outlined in this handbook, the disciplinary actions and/or consequences can move to a different level of response per the determination of the administration and individual student needs.

Hours of Operation

Rainier Middle School is open to students from 7:10 AM to 2:10 PM. Students will not be allowed in the building before the bell rings at 7:10 AM, except for breakfast or previously arranged. Students should depart the school building at 2:10 PM, unless involved in a school-sponsored activity. Rainier Middle School office hours are 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM, each weekday.

Telephone Use

Office telephones are business phones and should be used by students for **emergencies only**. If you miss a call from the school and no message is left, we are unable to trace the call within the building. We will not be able to determine who called you. Parents/Guardians are asked to refrain from calling students except in an emergency (forgetting homework or gym clothes are not emergencies). Personal messages will not be delivered to students unless they are of an emergency nature. **Cell phones are not to be used on campus during school hours other than in the commons at lunch.**

School Telephone Numbers

Attendance:	(253) 931-4843 (Option 1)
Registrar/Counseling:	(253) 931-4843 (Option 2)
Main Office/Administration:	(253) 931-4843 (Option 3)
Cashier	(253) 931-4843 (Option 3)
Heath Room:	(253) 931-4843 (Option 4)

A-Z information for Students and Parents/Guardians/Families

Rules and Regulations

You will be held accountable for following the rules, regulations and procedures as outlined in the student handbook. Depending on the frequency and severity of the offenses outlined in this handbook, the disciplinary actions and/or consequences can move to a different level of response per the determination of the administration and individual student needs.

All segments of our society require standards which all members of the society are expected to follow and maintain. So as not to infringe upon the rights of classmates and other students, the following rules are formed for all to follow. With rights go responsibilities. Your responsibility lies in following these guidelines and encouraging your peers to do likewise.

In addition to the rules that follow, teachers will have specific policies and regulations in their classrooms. Students will be informed about these during the first days of school. Students are expected to follow all school and classroom rules and regulations.

School rules apply not only at school during the school day, but at all school events, including home and away sporting events, extra-curricular activities, field trips, and other off-campus learning activities, regardless of day, time or location.

Activities Information

All students are encouraged to become actively involved beyond the school day. This allows students to develop a greater sense of membership in the Rainier community. In addition to athletics, students are encouraged to participate in other activities/clubs which may include Drama Club, Jazz Band, Robotics, Gambin Club, Choir Club, Fishing Club, Math Club, Cheer Club etc. Students interested in creating an activity/club should discuss ideas with the ASB advisor and fill out the appropriate ASB paperwork. Students should also listen to daily announcements to receive information about newly formed activities/clubs. There will be guidelines, rules and/or constitutions created specifically for each activity/club/sport formed. Students may join several activities/clubs/sports.

Students must purchase an ASB validation sticker to participate in a club or sport. All fines must be paid in order to participate in a club or sport. Students are encouraged to become involved in one or more of these activities.

Athletic Information

Season 1

Football - 7th & 8th grades only
Girls' Fastpitch Softball

Season 2

Boys' Basketball
Girls' Soccer
Girls' Gymnastics

Season 3

Boys' & Girls' Wrestling
Girls' Basketball
Boys Soccer

Season 4

Boys' Baseball
Girls' Volleyball
Boys' & Girls' Track

- An ASB card/fee is required to participate in after school activities. This can be purchased in the ASB office or online via the school website.
- A physical exam is required and must be on file before the student can attend practice. The exam should be completed after July 1 of the current or previous school year, as a physical is valid for two school years. Physical exam forms and school insurance forms are available in the ASB Office.
- Along with the exam, students and parents BOTH must also complete the online sports registration which includes: Auburn School District Athletic Participation form, Concussion form, Transportation form, and the Athletic Code of Conduct. **Students cannot participate without this completed paperwork on file. This must be completed online. See Rainier Middle School website for more information.**
- Parents need to provide transportation home for students when practices or games end. Times are available from coaches. Failure to pick your athlete within 30 minutes, may result in removal from the team.
- Some required equipment/gear may be purchased in the ASB office, i.e. socks, mouth guards, baseball hats.
- Behavior resulting in suspension, after school detention, lunch detention or other consequences as explained by coaches will require that the student miss athletic event(s) in accordance with the Auburn School District Athletic Code.
- **Grades:** Students must be passing 5 out of their 6 classes to participate
- Academics and behavior are important responsibilities for all student athletes. In order to be eligible to participate, each week students must have all of their teachers evaluate their schoolwork and behavior as either satisfactory or unsatisfactory. Students will turn in the Athletic Progress Report to the assigned coach each Monday during the season.

Attendance Policies and Procedures

Absences:

- A parent may call, email, or send a written note to the Attendance office the night before or the morning of the absence to excuse the student. **The number for the Attendance Office is 253-931-4995, option 1.**

Excused Absence Reasons

- Illness
- Family emergencies
- Religious holidays
- Doctor and dental appointments
- Other absences as deemed appropriate by the Assistant Principal
- **Students are not excused for oversleeping, traffic, missing the bus, etc.**

Late to School:

- Students that arrive late should report to the Attendance Office for and admit slip before they go to class. If the late arrival is due to an appointment, the parent/guardian can call, email, or send a note with the student and the absence will be excused.

Early Dismissal:

- Students needing to leave early should bring a note to the Attendance Office before school on the day they need to be dismissed. They will be given an Early Dismissal Pass. If they return during the day, they must stop at the Attendance Office for an admit slip.

Importance of Attendance:

- Excessive absences or tardies severely impact a student's learning and development. It is vital for students to **attend each day and be on time**.
- Students need to work with their teachers to see what they missed from class. If a prolonged absence (2 or more days) is foreseen, **communicate with the school counselor** so assignments and learning modules can be provided.

Washington State Becca Bill Regulations

The Washington State compulsory attendance law enacted in 1995, in conjunction with the Auburn School District policy, requires parents/guardians to ensure that students between the ages of 8 and 18 attend school every day school is in session. Success in school is dependent upon regular attendance.

After 10 unexcused absences in a year or 7 unexcused absences in one month:

- Juvenile court is petitioned to assume jurisdiction for alleging a violation of the compulsory attendance law.
- The court may order the student punished by detention, community service, or referral to a community juvenile conference board.
- Parents may be fined up to \$25 per day for each unexcused absence or be ordered to perform community service.

Please notify administration if your child is refusing to attend school. We will work with you to provide incentives, consequences and/or attendance contracts to encourage regular attendance.

After School Event Expectations

During the school year, there are a number of after-school activities available to students. Please follow these expectations for the enjoyment of all:

- Appropriate school behavior is expected for all after-school activities and events and while on campus at all times (before, during, or after school).
- Students must go directly to the location where the activity is taking place.
- Once students enter the activity, they must remain on campus. If you leave campus, you may not re-enter the campus.
- Students will exit the building by 2:15 unless in school supervised activity, in which students will report to the supervisor by 2:15.

ASB or CTE Clubs and Sports or Music Spectators:

- All school rules apply at after school events
- Must be respectful to home and away teams (See the ASD community guidelines)
- Must Clean up after themselves
- Cannot leave and come back to sporting event once they have left
- Follow school staff and supervisor expectations

Failure to follow these expectations could result in removal from the event or exclusion of future events on campus.

If a student is absent or suspended from school the day of the event, they may not attend after school events that day.

Assembly Expectations

All students attend assemblies unless officially excused and are expected to adhere to the following:

- Students are to walk with their teachers to assemblies, wait for their teacher's signal prior to entering the stands, and sit as a class with their teacher. (Teachers will sit with their students)
- Students are to use the restrooms prior to attending assemblies.
- As soon as the assembly begins all students are to become quiet and give the speaker their undivided attention.
- Appropriate respectful behavior is expected at all times, giving their attention to speakers and applauding when appropriate.
- Students are to show their appreciation during assemblies by cheering and clapping. Booing, hooting and yelling are not acceptable assembly behaviors. Items are never to be thrown during assemblies.
- At the conclusion of every assembly students will be dismissed by section

Students who do not follow rules will be removed and receive **Level I Response**

Balloons, Flowers and other Deliveries

- Delivery of balloons, flowers, food (Uber Eats, Doordash, etc) singing telegrams, etc, are NOT allowed. These cause a disruption to our learning environment and will not be forwarded to your child.
- Families may bring lunch for their child only.

Bicycles, Skateboards, Scooters, Skates/Rollerblades and Heelys

NOTE: It is the law in King County that cyclists wear helmets.

Students are not allowed to use skateboards, scooters, roller blades or Heelys on campus at any time.

Bicycles at School:

- May be ridden to school, but not on the campus.
- Park in one of the racks provided and secure with a chain/cable and lock.
- May not be used during the school day.
- Students must wear helmets.
- Bicycles and other items cannot be stored in the office.

Buses

BUS TRANSPORTATION IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT. Students wishing to retain their bus riding privileges must follow the rules below:

- No food, gum or open drink containers (like cans or cups) are allowed on the bus.
- Behavior that is appropriate in the classroom is expected while riding the bus.
- Students are expected to follow all directions given by the driver.

Failure to comply with the rules/guidelines may result in a bus referral. Bus referral will be handled through the **TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**.

Behavior deemed by the driver and/or administrator as a safety threat may result in an immediate suspension from the bus and/or school.

Bus Passes

For a bus pass to ride a different bus for a day:

- Bring a note signed by parent/guardian to the Attendance Office before school including the bus number and the name of the student with whom you will ride.
- Phone calls will not be accepted for bus passes except in emergencies.

Cafeteria Guidelines

At lunch, students are expected to pick a spot to eat and stay seated in that spot unless they choose to go outside or the library. They are asked to use 'restaurant voices' and manners. When students leave, they must clean their area before leaving.

- **NO** backpacks are allowed in the Commons during lunch
- One student per bathroom pass
- Respect all kitchen staff and other adults, following their requests and using proper manners.
- Students are expected to behave in an orderly, reasonable manner. They shall not run, shout, throw items, crowd into lines, be disrespectful to staff or other students, or take food out of the cafeteria.
- Students to remain seated while eating
- Clean up after yourself, including putting all garbage in garbage cans. Students are also responsible for picking up garbage on the floor area.
- Stay in designated areas
- Breakfast doors will be closed at the beginning of the first period school bell at 7:35 AM (8:35 AM on Monday's)

Cheating/Plagiarism

Do not cheat or help someone else cheat, or claim work that is not your own. This includes but is not limited to other people's work, artificial intelligence (AI), etc.

Cheating does not represent expectations of Rainier Middle School and compromise your learning. Students who are cheating or participating in plagiarized work will earn the following response for actions:

Level I Response

Chromebooks

Students are expected to follow the conditions outlined on the district website. Chromebooks are the property of the school district and can be removed for any violation.

- Students must sign the ASD technology agreement yearly.
- Students are not allowed to leave chromebooks unattended around campus.
 - They will be brought to the library and logged.
 - Excessive misuse may result in disciplinary action.

After excessive number of Chromebook left unattended: The following response will apply when this policy is violated:

Level I Response

Closed Campus/Visitors

To ensure the safety of all students, Rainier Middle School is a “Closed Campus.” This means that students are not to leave once they have arrived. This applies even before classes begin at 7:40. If, for example, your bus arrives at 7:15, you are not to leave campus. If your parents drop you off at school, you must remain at school. If you leave without permission for any reason you will be considered truant. Students not enrolled at Rainier Middle School are not allowed on campus. Students will exit the building by 2:15 unless in school supervised activity, in which students will report to the supervisor by 2:15.

Commercialism

Students are not permitted to sell items at school unless approved by an administrator. All posters and advertisements for potential display at Rainier Middle School must be approved through the office. (This also includes outside fundraising and gambling).

Communication

Communicating with parents is extremely important to Rainier Middle School Staff. The following systems have been put in place to help keep communication lines open:

- **Family & Student Access:** Parents/Guardians/Family can log onto the Family Access website to view grades, check missing assignments, and to email their student’s teachers <http://family.auburn.wa-k12.net>. Please email: smckee@auburn.wednet.edu for family access login information.
- **Phone Calls:** Teachers call parents/guardians/families for celebrations and concerns. If a student is sent to the office for disciplinary reasons, a teacher will email/call and if discipline action is taken an administrator will call the parent/guardian/family.
- **Parent Conferences:** Parents/Guardians/Family may call to speak with teachers or schedule conferences with their student’s teacher/teachers.
- **Rainier Middle School Newsletter:** The Principal’s newsletter is emailed every Friday to those having a valid email address on file with the main office. You can update your email address at any time through Family Access or Parent Square.
- **ParentSquare:** Students, parents, guardians and staff have access to ParentSquare. This is the district’s main communication tool for sending out immediate notifications, school messages and updates. parentsquare.com

Cumulative Violations

Students who constantly violate policies, rules, and regulations will be subject to leveled responses, regardless of the seriousness of the violation. Responses will be documented.

Depending on the frequency and severity of the offenses outlined in this handbook, the disciplinary actions and/or consequences can move to a different level of response per the determination of the administration and individual student needs.

Level 2 Response

Dances/BASH/Festivals Expectations

- Only full-time Rainier Middle School students may attend. **NO OUTSIDE GUESTS** will be allowed.
- Students who have been suspended (out-of-school or in-school) may not attend the next dance/bash.
- Students must attend a minimum of three periods on the day of the event in order to attend.
- Students with fines (athletics, kitchen, library, school program) may not attend dances until fines are paid.
- Students demonstrating unacceptable behavior at an extra-curricular event may lose the privilege to attend future activities.
- Students must be picked up immediately following school dances. Students not picked up immediately after a dance are subject to loss of dance attendance privileges.

Disrespect

Please be kind, courteous, cooperative, and respectful at ALL times. Students who exhibit disrespectful behavior toward a staff member, guest teacher, or another student will be subject to the following:

Level I Response

Disruptions/Horseplay

CLASSROOM, LUNCHROOM, AND HALLWAY BEHAVIOR

Behavior that disrupts the educational process and/or operations of the school will result in the following:

Level I Response

Dress Code

It is expected that students wear clothing which is appropriate and contributes to a positive learning climate while at school or school-sponsored activities. **Rainier's goal is to create an environment conducive to student learning.** State law requires shoes be worn at all times. Dress/appearance that constitutes a clear and present danger to student's health and/or safety or that cause interference with work or create a classroom or school disruption will not be permitted.

- Clothing must cover buttocks fully and no undergarments may be exposed.
- Footwear appropriate to the activity must be worn at all times.
- Clothing may not depict, imply, advertise, or advocate illegal, violent, or lewd conduct, weapons, or the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or other controlled substances.
- Clothing may not state, imply or depict hate speech/imagery targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected classification.
- Backpacks are to be kept in lockers at all times.
- Sunglasses are not permitted indoors.
- Hats and hoodies are allowed with exposed ears (content specific exceptions).
- No full face masks (such as ski masks) are to be worn indoors or on campus.
- Blankets/capes/costumes are not appropriate or safe to wear in our crowded school, except during school designated dress up days.

Students who do not follow these guidelines will be given the opportunity to change their clothing or cover up. Further actions may follow for repeated offenses.

Level I Response

Drugs/Alcohol

Drug/Alcohol offenses are a violation of the law. Police will be contacted for all offenses. A student may not be found under the influence of, in possession of, or distributing or selling alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, marijuana, or other drugs while at school or at a school-related activity. Discipline may include participation in intervention activities, referral to a law enforcement agency, and/or suspension or emergency expulsion from the Auburn School District.

Level 2 Response

Electronics, Cell Phones/Earbuds, or Personal Items

Students with cell phones or other electronic devices (such as earbuds or gaming devices) **need to put them away while in hallways & classrooms unless directed by the teacher for use in a lesson or unit.** Once you step into the bathroom, hallway or classroom, your phone must be out of sight. While cell phones are a great way for students to communicate with parents/guardians/family and peers, they have also become disruptive to the educational process (i.e., texting, playing games, theft of phones, cameras, etc.). The following response will apply when this policy is violated.

Level I Response

Any video or photo taken on campus is a potential invasion of privacy and is not allowed on campus and will result in an increased level of response depending on the content and severity.

- Depending on the severity of the incident, some instances may result up to a

Level 3 Response

Note: Rainier Middle School will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen property and will not be able to investigate missing or stolen personal electronic devices (bring them at your own risk). Personal items of value, which can include electronics and unnecessary cash, should not be brought to school. The school will not be responsible for, nor investigate their loss or theft.

Emergency Drills and Student Release

Evacuation drills for fire and other emergencies are held on a regular basis. In case of an emergency, students will only be released to persons listed on the emergency release card.

Please keep phone numbers for home, work, and emergency contacts updated with the school registrar: (253) 931-4843.

End of School Day

When school is dismissed, students are expected to leave the school grounds promptly unless they are with a teacher or are participating in a school activity under the direct supervision of a teacher or coach.

- At 2:10 all students are to immediately proceed to the bus zone, a school sponsored activity, or walk home
- All students not involved in a school activity must leave campus by 2:15 PM
- Students waiting for rides must be picked up by 2:15 PM at the front of the school.
- School rules apply for all school sponsored after school activities, on and off campus

Level 1 Response

Extra-Curricular Activities/Clubs

Rainier offers a range of after school activities and clubs. Due to student interest levels or staff availability, not all clubs are offered each year. New clubs may be added as student's express interest. The intent of these activities and clubs is to provide our students opportunities for positive experiences after school. Participation in activities and clubs may be contingent on meeting certain requirements. See advisor(s) for specific information or check the Rainier website.

Extortion

Extortion is a violation of the law. Extorting is defined as attempting to extort any item, information, or money. This includes by means of wrongful or means of a threat. Discipline may include referral to a law enforcement agency, and/or suspension or emergency expulsion from the Auburn School District.

- **Level 2 Response**

- Depending on the severity of the incident, some instances may result in a **Level 3 Response**

Field Trips

Throughout the course of the school year, opportunities may present themselves for students to participate in field trips. School expectations and guidelines apply to these situations.

Students may be prohibited from attending field trips for the following reasons:

- Not submitting required permission slip by deadline.
- Repeated disciplinary referrals.
- Suspensions (in and out of school.)
- Attendance concerns.
- Academic concerns.
- Participation will be examined on an individual basis.

Fighting/ Intent to Cause Harm

Students are expected to treat each other respectfully and may not violate the personal space of others. Any student who participates in a fight or causes harm/discomfort through unwelcome physical contact, initiates or instigates a fight, video tapes a fight, or otherwise engages in supporting a fight may be subject to the following:

Level 2 Response

Food Services (Breakfast and Lunch are available)

- Breakfast is served from **7:15 AM. - 7:35 AM**
- Breakfast and lunch are free to all students.

Food and Drinks

In order to provide a sanitary setting and a clean, professional-looking environment for students and staff; food and drinks **WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED IN THE COMMONS**. The following response will apply when this policy is violated:

Level 1 Response

Forgery/ Lying

Forged notes, paperwork, or phone calls that falsely represent parent contact with the school will be handled as follows:

Level 1 Response

Gang-Related Behavior and Symbolism

Any student wearing, carrying, or displaying gang-related apparel or exhibiting behavior or gestures which symbolize gang membership will be asked to make appropriate corrections and be subject to a response if the corrections are not undertaken. Failure to make the appropriate corrections will be considered exceptional misconduct. Please see **EXCEPTIONAL MISCONDUCT** definition.

Gun Free Zone

The possession of firearms on school property will result in one year mandatory expulsion, subject to appeal with notification to parents and law enforcement.

Hall Passes

Unless a passing period, students are not to be in the halls without their E-Hallpass logged (or other approved classroom or school hall pass) while classes are in session. Students out of class without a pass are considered truant and may be subject to a response. In the hallways, students are expected to walk, stay to the right when walking, use quiet voices, and keep their hands and feet to themselves. Disruptions in the hallway will result in the following:

Level I Response

Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Threats

Rainier Middle School has a zero-tolerance policy for harassment. It is the policy of the Auburn School District that all students should be able to attend and learn in a school setting that is free from all forms of discrimination: creed, race, age, color, religion, gender, handicap, or national origin. Harassment is prohibited in the workplace and at school and may result in suspension.

General Harassment: Teasing, name calling, spreading rumors or making threats, will be considered harassment and may be grounds for suspension. Third party harassment occurs when an individual who witnesses harassing behaviors is offended by the actions.

Sexual Harassment: Occurs when gender based physical or verbal conduct interferes with an individual's work or school performance. It also occurs if the conduct creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or school environment.

**Sexual harassment includes offensive sexual flirtations, advances or propositions, continued or verbal abuse of a sexual nature, graphic or degrading verbal comments about an individual or about their appearance, the display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures, any offensive or abusive physical contact or otherwise making others feel threatened or uncomfortable.

Racial Harassment: Occurs when racial or other ethnic based verbal conduct or use of physical gesture(s) interferes with an individual's work or school performance. It also occurs if the conduct creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or school environment.

**Racial harassment includes racial slurs, regardless of intent, gestures, name calling, taunting, teasing, jokes, sounds, demeaning comments or graphic representation (e.g. swastikas, confederate flags), or otherwise making another individual feel threatened or uncomfortable.

LGBTQ+ Harassment: Occurs when verbal conduct or use of physical gesture(s) interferes with an individual's work or school performance. It also occurs if the conduct creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or school environment.

LGBTQ+ harassment includes slurs, **regardless of intent, gestures, name calling, taunting, teasing, jokes, sounds, demeaning comments or graphic representation, or otherwise making another individual feel threatened or uncomfortable.

Cyber Bullying: Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

Cyber Bullying is against the law. The district is committed to providing a civil educational environment for all students, employees, volunteers, and patrons, free from harassment, intimidation, or bullying. "Harassment, intimidation, or bullying" means any intentional written message, video or image, including those that are electronically created and/or transmitted, a verbal or physical act, including but not limited to one shown to be motivated by any characteristic in RCW 9A.36.080 (3) (race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or mental or physical disability) or other distinguishing characteristics.

Notification Procedures: If you feel you have been harassed, either directly or by witnessing harassing behavior, you have a right to file a complaint that will be investigated. Please report your complaint to any adult in the building, who will then fill out an incident referral form and forward to administration.

- **Level 2 Response**

- Depending on the severity of the incident, some instances may result in a **Level 3 Response**

Health Services and Medication

- Parents are notified for serious concerns, but cannot be notified for every visit to the Health Room.
- Calls home must be made with permission from school staff.
- Students need a pass from their teacher to go to the Health Room and may not go during passing periods.
- **Parents/Guardians/Families:** please keep home, work, cell and emergency phone numbers updated.
- **Students:** please report **ALL** accidents to the Health Room.
- Parents/Guardians/Families **cannot** send Tylenol, Advil, aspirin, or other over-the-counter medications with students. However, they can be kept in the health room with doctors' orders on file.
- A permission slip, signed by both the parent and the physician, is required.
- Labeled medication is kept in the Health Room for distribution.

Homework Requests

- If your student has an extended absence, you can request homework from the days that are missed.
- Request by calling **(253) 931-4843**. Teachers will deliver homework or electronic directions to the Attendance Office within 24 hours of notification.
- Requests can also be made by emailing the specific teachers directly.
- Pick up in the Attendance Office between 2:15 - 3:00 p.m.

Insubordination/Defiance

Students must follow the directions of staff and respond accordingly. Failure to do so will be addressed as follows:

- **Level I Response**

- Depending on the severity of the incident, some instances may result in a **Level 2 Response**

Depending on the frequency and severity of the offenses outlined in this handbook, the disciplinary actions and/or consequences can move to a different level of response per the determination of the administration and individual student needs.

Lockers

We are pleased to issue a locker for your use as a student at Rainier. Lockers are the property of the school. Backpacks are not to be taken to classes, backpacks will be stored in lockers before the beginning of first period and picked up at the end of the school day. You will be allowed to use the locker assigned to you as long as you follow the responsibilities associated with this privilege:

Combinations and sharing locker:

- All locker combinations are new this year. Do not give out your combination to your friends. It is your responsibility to protect this information and not to share it with anyone. Do not write the number of your locker and the combination on the same paper.
- You are given one locker for the year. You are not to change lockers or let someone move into your locker. THIS may result in discipline, including loss of locker privileges.

- If you choose to give someone your combination, and then later decide you don't want them in your locker, you will not be given a new combination.

Locker condition:

- Please keep your locker clean. You may be assessed fees for damaging a locker. Items such as stickers and double-sided tape are not allowed, as they leave a residue on the locker. You will be responsible for the condition of your locker.
- Nothing is to be written on or in lockers. Since lockers are the property of the school, all displays must follow established guidelines and may not include unacceptable language, or advertisements for alcohol, tobacco, etc.

Items stored in your locker:

- Please do not bring valuable items to school. Do not leave items of value in your locker. The school assumes no responsibility for items taken from lockers.
- **Lockers may be searched in compliance with state and district guidelines.**

To open your locker:

- Turn the dial to the right two times to clear it.
- Turning to the right, stop at the first number of your combination.
- Turning to the left, go past the second number then stop the 2nd time you come to the second number.
- Turning to the right, stop at the third number of your combination

Students must follow the directions of staff and place backpacks in lockers prior to first period. Repeated failure to do so will be addressed as follows:

- **Level I Response**

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found is located in the PE hallway, Main office, and in each locker room. Please note that the school is NOT responsible for your lost or stolen articles. We advise you not to bring items of value to school. Also, write your name with a permanent marking pen inside your clothing, coats, etc. This enables us to return lost items to you. Lost and found items are donated to charity approximately once per quarter.

PE Attire/Locker Guidelines

PE Attire:

- Students are required to dress appropriately for PE every day. Please see the PE course syllabus for expectations.
- School issued sports uniforms may not be worn as PE attire.

PE Lockers:

- Same guidelines as listed under “lockers.”
- In addition: click and spin the dial before leaving the locker room. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. **Personal items should never be left on the bench, floor, or unlocked lockers in the locker room during classes.**

Profanity

Inappropriate words in any language, pictures, or gestures will result in the following:

• Level I Response

Inappropriate words in any language, pictures, or gestures directed toward a staff member will result in a:

• Level 2 Response

Public Displays of Affection

Public displays of affection are not appropriate at the middle school level. This includes hugging, kissing, and other physical contact. Failure to follow will result in a call home and the following: .

• Level I Response

Searches and Student Privacy

We are required to search students and their belongings if it is reported that a student may be in possession of an illegal substance or weapon. Students and staff members have been asked to report anything suspicious, even if they are not sure of what they saw. Searching a student in no way implies that we have any particular opinion of that student, but we must follow through on anything reported to ensure student safety. Parents will be contacted immediately if an illegal, dangerous, or unacceptable item is located.

Tardy Policy

Students are expected to be on time for all classes. Students are tardy if they are not in their assigned classroom when the tardy bell completes ringing. The tardy policy is based on a month-long accrual system. After 5 minutes of tardiness, a student is considered truant.

- I-4: Students will be notified that they are approaching the number of tardies that will result in a discipline consequence.
- 5-9: Lunch Detention
- 10-14: After School Detention
- 15+: Thursday Night School, Meeting with Parent/Guardians, Admin to develop contract

- **Level 1 Response**

- Repeated or consistent tardy can result in **Level 2 Response.**

Depending on the frequency and severity of the offenses outlined in this handbook, the disciplinary actions and/or consequences can move to a different level of response per the determination of the administration and individual student needs.

Telephone Usage and Messages

The office telephones are business phones and should be used by students for emergencies only. Students may not use classroom phones. To avoid interruption to the learning of all students, **please do not call or text your student's cell phone during the school day**; you run the risk of having the phone taken away by a RMS staff member. Please request delivery of messages to students only for emergencies by contacting the RMS office.

Theft

The theft of school or personal property on campus or at a school related activity will be dealt with in the the following manner:

- **Level 2 Response.**

Threat Toward a Staff Member

- **Level 3 Response.**

Truancy Policy

Truancy is an absence from school or class without parental permission. According to state law (RCW 28A.225), school districts are required to file petitions with the juvenile court when a student acquires 7 unexcused absences in a month or 10 unexcused absences in a school year. Students who are more than 5 minutes late to a class without an excused tardy will be considered truant. The following consequences will apply when this policy is violated:

- **Level I Response**

Vandalism

Disrespect for or destruction of school, staff, or student property will result in an immediate response. **Payment for damages will be required. Depending on the severity of the incident, some instances may result in immediate suspension or expulsion.**

- **Level I Response**

- Depending on the severity of the incident, some instances may result in **Level 2 Response.**

Violations of School Rules

Any violation of school rules will result in discipline. Our goal is to correct the behavior, provide restoration for the parties involved, and assign consequences if needed.

Consequences include, but are not limited to:

Level I Response	Level 2 Response	Level 3 Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Processing• Referral to Administrator• Parent/Guardian email• Lunch Detention• Campus Clean Up• Phone Call to Parent/Guardian• Counseling• Restorative Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Removal from class• After-School Detention• Short-Term Suspension• In-School Suspension• Parent/Guardian Meeting• Parent/Guardian Email/Phone Call• Counseling• Restorative Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short-Term Suspension• Long-Term Suspension• Expulsion• Revoke of Waiver• Drug & Alcohol Class• Parent/Guardian Meeting• Counseling• Restorative Conference

You will be held accountable for following the rules, regulations and procedures as outlined in the student handbook. Depending on the frequency and severity of the

offenses outlined in this handbook, the disciplinary actions and/or consequences can move to a different level of response per the determination of the administration and individual student needs.

Weapons, Dangerous Instruments, Ammunition, Fireworks, Lasers, and Lighters

Firearms/weapons are not allowed in school, at school-sponsored activities, on school grounds, facilities, or school provided transportation. If a student brings a firearm to school it will result in an immediate expulsion for no less than one calendar year, including notification of parents and law enforcement. The expulsion may be modified by the school district on a case-by-case basis. Students who possess a weapon or carry, exhibit, display, or draw any weapon or any item apparently capable of producing bodily harm in a manner which, under the circumstances, manifests in an intent to intimidate another or warrants alarm for safety of others shall be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.

- **Level 3 Response.**

Rules and Regulations

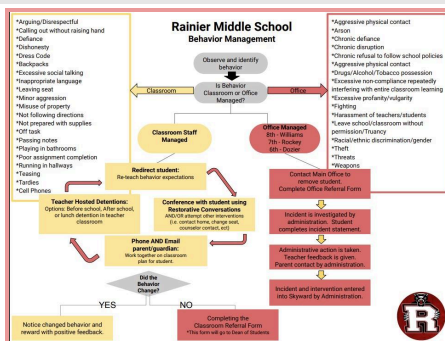
You will be held accountable for following the rules, regulations and procedures as outlined in the student handbook. Depending on the frequency and severity of the offenses outlined in this handbook, the disciplinary actions and/or consequences can move to a different level of response per the determination of the administration and individual student needs.

All segments of our society require standards which all members of the society are expected to follow and maintain. So as not to infringe upon the rights of classmates and other students, the following rules are formed for all to follow. With rights go responsibilities. Your responsibility lies in following these guidelines and encouraging your peers to do likewise.

In addition to the rules that follow, teachers will have specific policies and regulations in their classrooms. Students will be informed about these during the first days of school. Students are expected to follow all school and classroom rules and regulations.

School rules apply not only at school during the school day, but at all school events, including home and away sporting events, extra-curricular activities, field trips, and other off-campus learning activities, regardless of day, time or location.

Behavior Management Flow Chart



Definitions of Student Misconduct and Rules

Academic Expectations - Students who are low achieving academically are in violation of WAC 180-40-210, which states that, “it is the responsibility and duty of each student to pursue his/her course of studies...and he or she may be subject to corrective action or punishment imposed by a school district and its agents for violation(s) of such rules.”

Alcohol and Chemical Substances - A student shall not possess, use, transmit, be under the influence of, or show evidence of having used any alcoholic beverage, marijuana or other intoxicant, any illegal chemical substance, narcotic or hallucinogenic drug, noxious inhalant, substance paraphernalia, or prescription drug prescribed to another, or any item purported to be such. This includes counterfeit drugs or over the counter drugs. Nor shall a student knowingly remain in any area where such activity is taking place.

Alteration of Records - A student who falsifies, alters, or destroys school records or any communication between home and school shall be subject to corrective action.

Arson - Setting fire to a building or property is prohibited.

Assault/Battery - A student shall not use, threaten to use, or attempt to use force or violence upon another person, including the use of an object or instrument for the purpose of inflicting injury.

Attendance/Truancy - A student absent or tardy from classes without an approved excuse shall be subject to corrective action or punishment. Leaving class without permission of the teacher is also considered truancy. Actions outlined by state truancy laws (BECCA Bill) will be followed relating to student truancy.

Behavior Contract - Students who commit “multiple infractions” are subject to the stipulations of a behavior contract and/or a parent conference before returning to class(es) and/or school.

Bus Conduct - All school rules apply while riding the school bus. School bus drivers have the authority to discipline students for misconduct related to school district policy. Misconduct may result in suspension of bus riding privileges. Direct any questions related to bus misconduct to the director of the transportation department at (253) 931-4938. The school may also apply discipline for bus misconduct.

Bullying/Cyberbullying - A student who persistently disturbs torments or pesters other persons, in person or online, shall be subject to corrective action or punishment. Bullying may also occur with a single act if severe enough in nature.

Cheating - Any student who knowingly submits the work of others represented as his/her own shall be considered to have cheated.

Criminal Acts - Any act that constitutes a crime will be subject to suspension and/or emergency expulsion. Cascade will notify law enforcement authorities.

Damage or Destruction of Property - A student shall not intentionally or negligently damage or deface school or private property in any way. Students and parents shall be liable to the school district for all damage to school district property as permitted by RCW 28A.635.060.

Defiance - Open, bold resistance to authority or opposition to authority.

Disruptive Conduct - A student shall not use violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct to cause the substantial and material disruption of any lawful mission, process or function of the school. Such conduct includes occupying school property in order to deprive others of its use, blocking normal pedestrian or vehicular traffic, and intimidating or preventing students from attending a class or school activity or a staff member from exercising his or her lawfully assigned duties.

Disruptive Dress or Appearance - See Dress Code.

Drugs - See Alcohol and Chemical Substances.

Explosives - A student shall not possess, use or threaten to use anything tending or serving to explode with force and violence, such as firecrackers, bullets or pipe bombs.

Extortion - A student shall not take another person's money or property by the use of threats or physical violence.

False Accusations - A student shall not knowingly allege untrue wrongdoing or make defamatory statements regarding other persons.

False Alarm - A student shall not intentionally trip a fire alarm or other alarm system when there is not an actual emergency.

Fight Promotion - A student shall not encourage, arrange, or promote a fight (see fighting) situation between students. Any individual involved in contributing to a fight, including taking pictures and/or recording the event, is subject to suspension.

Fighting - A student shall not engage in mutual combat in which both parties have contributed to the situation by verbal or physical action. Both combatants involved in a fight may be subject to suspension.

Falsification/Forgery - The act of fraudulently using in writing or orally the name of another person or falsifying times, dates, grades, addresses or other data is prohibited.

Gambling - Gambling or encouraging other students to gamble is prohibited.

Gang Behavior - A student shall not exhibit behavior or gestures of gang membership as set forth in Board Policy 3224.

Harassment - A student who persistently disturbs torments or pesters other persons shall be subject to corrective action or punishment. Harassment may also occur with a single act if severe enough in nature.

Leaving Campus During School Hours - A student shall not leave the campus area during the school day unless the attendance secretary has granted prior approval. Students must check out through the attendance office BEFORE leaving. Students who check out after leaving will be considered truant and subject to standard school discipline.

Loitering - A student shall be expected to leave the school campus at the official close of the school day unless permission to do otherwise has been granted. Students shall immediately follow requests to disperse.

Loitering in the Presence of Misconduct - A student shall be expected to immediately leave any activity at which misconduct is occurring.

Lying to Authorities - Students shall not deliberately misrepresent or omit any relevant fact when answering the questions of or conversing with school personnel.

Multiple Infractions - More than one occurrence violating school rules of student misconduct.

Non-Compliance - Failure to comply with a reasonable request.

Offensive Social Behavior - Students shall refrain from activities that violate standards of acceptable social conduct including public demonstrations of physical affection on the school campus or at school-sponsored events.

Plagiarism - Students shall not copy, download, or plagiarize written work(s) and turn in the assignment as his/her own nor knowingly provide such material to others. This may include sections

from multiple sources that have been copied where the content is not the original work of the student. Plagiarism is considered a flagrant and more severe form of cheating. Students who turn in an entire work (or nearly an entire work) as such will receive an “F” or “ZERO” on the plagiarized assignment with the probability that the plagiarized assignment could affect their final grade.

Requests of Staff - A student shall comply and obey with all lawful instructions of any District employee.

Tardiness – See Tardy Policy

Theft - The unauthorized carrying away of the personal goods or property of another person or the school district or in possession of stolen property whether known or not known to be stolen is prohibited. Students and parents shall be liable to the school district for the failure to return school property loaned to a student upon demand of an employee of the District authorized to make such demand.

Threats - Students shall not threaten to use force or violence upon any school staff, student or property. All threats will be taken seriously.

Tobacco -A student shall not possess, use, transmit, or show evidence of having used a tobacco product of any kind, or any item purported to be such. Nor shall a student knowingly remain in any area where such activity is taking place.

Trespassing - Being present in an unauthorized place or refusing to leave when ordered to do so.

Truancy - See Attendance/Truancy

Unauthorized Computer Use - School board policy states that computers are for educational purposes only and must be in support of education, research or school-approved extracurricular activities. The use of computers and systems must be in conformity with all laws and school policy and commercial solicitation is not allowed. Users are responsible for the privacy of their password, logging off the computer when they are finished, and the appropriateness of the material and actions that take place under their account. No use of the system shall disrupt the operation. Software and hardware shall not be destroyed, modified or abused. Unauthorized access or attempts to access any computer hard drive or computer system is prohibited. The cost parts and labor associated with repairing the system may be included as a consequence for tampering with any device or system.

Vaping – A student shall not possess, use, transmit, or show evidence of having used a tobacco product of any kind, or any item purported to be such. Nor shall a student knowingly remain in any area where such activity is taking place.

Vulgar or Lewd Conduct - Any lewd, indecent or obscene act or expression is prohibited, including those remarks with racist or sexist overtones.

Weapons and Dangerous Instruments - A student shall not possess or transmit any object that can reasonably be considered a firearm, knife, air gun, dangerous weapon/ammunition or facsimile

thereof. State law provides that possession of a dangerous weapon is grounds for expulsion. State and federal law requires that students in possession of a firearm on school grounds be expelled without the opportunity to apply for re-admission for at least one calendar year.

Rainier Middle School

Rules, Regulations, and Sanctions Chart Signature Page

Rainier Middle School continues to make every effort to keep parents/guardians informed of happenings at school. We ask all students and parents/guardians to sign the form below to acknowledge receiving and reading the Rainier Middle School Rules, Regulations, and Sanctions Chart.

Rainier Middle School Rules, Regulations, and Sanctions Chart Signature Page

With my signature at the bottom of this page, I acknowledge receiving and reading the Rainier Middle School Rules and Regulations along with the Rainier Middle School Sanction Range Chart.

Please tear out and sign this page.

Return it to your Panther Time teacher by Friday, September 13, 2024.

Parent Name

Student Name

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Date

Date

