



RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

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September 15th, 2021

As we are halfway through our second week, our Royals have settled in well to the routines and traditions here at RHS. We are proud of our Royals and all they accomplish throughout each school year. We are also proud of how responsible and respectful our Royals conduct themselves. Whether they are helping one another in the classroom, showing kindness to their peers and staff in the hallways, or giving to the larger community, we have the very best students in all of New Brunswick here at RHS. Good job Royals!

At the beginning of each year, our Royals collectively renew their commitment to a vision developed by their peers. These [Student Commitments](#) are available to review on our school web site under Documents.

Connectedness and Belonging

As a school, both staff and students have always worked to help every Royal feel connected and like they belong at RHS. We know that youth will do better in school and in life when they feel connected and have a sense of belonging in their school, among positive role models, and within the community.

Students need to be responsible for trying to connect with all the great things RHS and our community offers. This connection and belonging begins in the classroom with staff and students. For some students, extracurricular activities provide the opportunity to connect with our school community, whether as participants or supportive spectator. This Friday, September 17th, all students will have an opportunity to participate in our extracurricular fair to learn about the different activities they can be involved in this year. As well, we post our “Things To Do” at RHS on our school web site under Documents. We encourage you to review these opportunities with your Royal. If your Royal is finding it difficult to connect in a positive way with others, please let us know so we can help.

As a staff, we work with our students to make RHS a positive place for all members of our community. This begins first and foremost with our vision that all Royals treat each other with kindness and take care of one another. We often refer to our school as a family. We encourage everyone to look out for one another and support each other when needed.

Conflict Resolution

Over the next few weeks, our guidance and administration team will help students learn how to resolve conflict positively and on their own with the support of adults. Our focus is to help students develop important conflict resolution skills while repairing any harm done to trust or relationships during such conflict. Although we encourage students to try and resolve conflict in healthy ways on their own, school staff is available to support in more difficult situations, students just need to ask a staff member for help.

Bullying Prevention

We expect all Royals to be helpful, kind, empathetic, and respectful with one another. Unfortunately, sometimes a student intentionally tries to harm or threaten others either through words, actions, or social media activity. Although this could be unkind behaviour, if there is an imbalance of power and an attempt to exert some sort of control by intimidating, harassing, threatening, or humiliating, then this is bullying behaviour and it is unacceptable.

Every year we form a leadership group of students and staff who work to prevent bullying at RHS. They prepare information sessions for students, work on promoting pro-social behaviour which helps prevent bullying, and make suggestions on how to ensure we have a system that addresses specific situations. If your Royal is interested in helping with this work, please let us know by emailing an administrator.

Staff have already presented to all Royals to help promote pro-social behaviours and to remind them that they can report bullying behaviour by speaking with or emailing a staff member or completing the online form available via **QR code** on posters around the school and under the Quick Links on our school web site.

Although reporting can be done anonymously, we strongly encourage students to provide their name so we can follow-up with them directly. This helps students understand how the situation was addressed. Any reports submitted online by 1:30 PM on a school day, will be addressed that same day. Any behaviour of this type observed by school staff will be addressed and reported right away.

We are pleased to let you know that we are working with Riverview middle schools to provide a consistent approach and that we are partnering with the Town of Riverview to collaborate on this important work. We know that behaviour in school and in the community are closely linked. We all want to work together to provide a safe and positive school and community for our youth.

Washrooms

Based on input from students, staff, and parents, we are placing an increased focus on safety in our washrooms. In particular, students are gathering in the washrooms which makes it uncomfortable for others to enter and students are vaping. Students are permitted to use the washroom only for its intended purpose; using a toilet/urinal and washing their hands. Students are not permitted to gather or hang-out in the washroom. Students can expect staff to enter the washroom to ensure they are being used appropriately. We have eight single washrooms in different locations around the school which students may use if it is more comfortable for them.

Drugs and Alcohol

At RHS, we take a strong stand against the use of drugs and alcohol during school times and at school events. Drug, alcohol, and addiction awareness and prevention are a part of some classes. Periodically we also bring in guest speakers to address these issues. If a student is having difficulty with these illegal substances or an addiction, please let us know. Guidance and an addiction counsellor are available to counsel our students.

While attending or in advance of attending school or any school-sponsored activity, students found using, consuming, in possession of, under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol will be suspended from school and privileges for extra/co-curricular activities will be lost for the remainder of the school year or 6 calendar months, whichever is the longer period of time. The RCMP may be notified, and possible charges may be laid. Students may also be recommended for a long-term suspension.

Vaping / Electronic Cigarettes

Riverview High School is a tobacco and smoke free environment. The first time a student is found in possession of or using a vape or electronic cigarette on school property or at an off-site school event, they will be suspended from school for two days and placed in the Temporary Student Placement Centre for one day. Further violations will result in a long-term suspension.

Motor Vehicles

Students must operate any motor vehicle responsibly on school property at all times. The posted speed limit is 25 Km/h. Students involved in dangerous or careless driving will not be permitted to bring vehicles to school and the RCMP will be contacted.

We hope this letter helps outline some of the ways our staff and students help create a safe, positive, and welcoming environment at RHS. If you have any questions, or know of a student who needs additional support, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Jason Reath
Principal

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Vice Principal
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Vice Principal
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