

2009-10

Student Handbook



Mount Rainier High School

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Des Moines, WA 98198

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2009-2010 Student Handbook

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome to Mount Rainier High School!

The high school years are a foundation for your future growth and development. The Mount Rainier staff wants this year's experience to be successful and productive for you. We encourage each student to know the information presented in this handbook so we can have a school that functions with a high degree of Ram Pride! The student handbook is provided for your organization of material and convenient reference to policies, procedures, expectations and services of Mount Rainier High School.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask any staff member for assistance.

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Principal.. Ms. Hunter
Assistant Principal.. Mr. O'
Assistant Principal . Mr. Po
Office Manager Ms. Zi
Receptionist Ms. Di

Attendance Ms. Bernstein
Attendance Ms. Walters
ASB Bookkeeper Ms. Th

Counseling Secretary . Ms. De

Alma Mater

Our voices echo through the halls;
we sing to Mount Rainier,
of days gone by and victories won
and hours of good cheer.

We'll support the blue and white,
our colors bold and true,
both now and in the years to come;
we'll all remember you!

Fight Song

Onward Rams, Onward Rams
Fight right through that line,
View the points we all depend on
We will WIN the game,
Rah, Rah, Rah!

Counselor A-E	Mr. Hiestand	631-7021
Counselor F-K	Ms. Crisler	631-7023
Counselor L-P	Ms. Hansen	964-7022
Counselor Q-Z	Ms. Garner	631-7024
Registrar . Ms. Best .	631-7009	
Work-Based Learning		
Coordinator	Ms. Mattos	631-7018
Career Specialist	Ms. Matthews	631-7017
Athletics/Activities .	Mr. Rawie	631-7040
Nurse	Ms. Baron	631-7007
ERAC	433-0111	
Puget Sound Skills Center	631-7300	
Student Support Services .	433-2559	
Mount Rainier Pool . . .	824-4722	

DAILY SCHEDULES

Regular Schedule	
Period 17:30-	
.	8:25
Period 28:30-	
.	9:25
Period 39:30-	
.	10:30

1st Lunch	10:35 -
Period 4	11:10 -
Period 4	10:35 -
2nd Lunch	11:35
- ...	12:05
Period 5	12:10 -
Period 6	1:10 -
.....	2:05

Morning	Afternoon	Friday
Assembly	Assembly	Early
Period 17:30- 8	Period 17:30- 8	Release
Period 28:20- 9	Period 28:20- 9	Period 17:30- 8:10
Assembly 9:10- 10	Period 39:10- 9	Period 28:15- 8:55
Period 3	1st Lunch	Period 39:00- 9:45
... 10:10-10:55	... 10:00-10:30	1st Lunch
1st Lunch	Period 4	Period 49:50- 10:3
... 11:00-11:30	Period 4	Period 410:25
Period 4	2nd Lunch	Period 49:50- 10:3
... 11:00-11:45	10:55	2nd Lunch 10:35
2nd Lunch	Period 5	Period 5
11:50-12:30	12:15...	11:10-11:50
Period 5	Period 6	Period 6
... 12:25-1:10	... 12:20-1:05	... 11:55-12:35
Period 6	Assembly	1:10- 2:05

Advisory **One-Hour** **Period 61:30- 2:05**
 Period 17:30- ~~8:25~~ **Day**
 Period 28:25- ~~9:15~~ **Period 18:30- 9:15**
 Advisory 9:20- ~~9:50~~ **Period 29:20- 10:05**
 Period 39:55- ~~10:45~~ **Period 3**
 1st Lunch 10:10-10:55
 10:50-11:20 **1st Lunch**
 4th 11:00-11:30
 Period 11:25 - 12:15 **Period 411:35 - 12:25**
 4th Period 10:50 **Period 40**
 2nd Lunch 11:45 - 11:20 **11:50**
 5th Period 12:20 - 2nd **Lunch 11:55 - 12:25**
 6th Period 1:15 **Period 55**
 12:30-1:15
 Period 61:20- 2:05

Two Hour
Delay
 Period 19:30- 10:05
 Period 2
 10:10-10:45
 Period 3
 10:50-11:25
 1st Lunch
 11:30-12:00
 Period 412:05 - 12:45
 Period 4
 11:30-12:10
 2nd Lunch 12:15 - 12:45
 Period 5
 12:50-1:25

ATTENDANCE

We are proud of our tradition of high academic performance at Mount Rainier.

It is the belief of the Highline Public Schools that students realize greater benefits from their classes when they attend regularly. The district desires to meet the requirements of Washington State law (WAC 180-40) by developing attendance procedures that encourage students to attend regularly and participate in their classes.

The school will attempt to notify parents/guardian of each student's absence on a daily basis.

The first time a student reaches a sixth absence in one or more of her/his courses, the school will send the parents/guardian a written summary of the student's attendance record in all of their courses. This summary will indicate the total number of excused, unexcused, truancies, and school related/caused absences.

Excused Absences: An absence from school or class shall be excused ONLY with permission of parent, guardian, and school administrator. Parents or guardians must send a written note as required by state law whenever a student has been absent. This note must be received by the school within 24 hours after the student's return to school.

Unexcused Absences (Truancy): An absence from school or class without the permission

of the parents, guardians, or school administrator is considered unexcused.

The school will take one or more of the following actions as a result of an unexcused absence (truancy).

- | | |
|---|---|
| a. Telephone/written notification to parent/guardian. | f. Provide appropriate vocational work or work experience. |
| b. Conference scheduled with parent/guardian. | g. Refer to community truancy board. |
| c. Loss of credit for work missed during the unexcused absence (truancy). | h. Assist student/parent to obtain supplementary services that might eliminate or ameliorate the causes for absences. |
| d. Adjust school program or course assignment. | i. Remedial action. |
| e. Provide more individualized or remedial instruction. | j. Disciplinary action. |

After 20 consecutive absences, a student will be withdrawn from school.

Approved Prearranged Absence: A pre-arranged absence request must be submitted to the school office by the parent/guardian in advance of the absence except in the case of an emergency. If such a request is granted, it is to be understood that a prearranged absence may have an adverse effect on a student's course grade since the absence may

negatively impact the student's attainment of a courses objectives.

Suspensions: Absences initiated by the school for disciplinary action will not be counted as accumulated absences under these provisions.

Verifiable Medical Absence: In order for an absence to be classified as a medical absence it must be verified in writing by an appropriate medical person. Serious illness or medical conditions requiring extended hospitalization or stay at home will be examined on a case by case basis. The principal or designee shall make the determination as to what special arrangements should be made after consulting with the student's teachers, counselor, and parents/guardian.

Tardy: The term *tardy* shall be defined as being late to school, class or an activity with or without permission of parents/guardian or school personnel. Students who are tardy are subject to one or more of the following consequences: in-school suspension, school service, parent contact, a student/parent or guardian conference, and/or loss of credit.

Make-Up Work: It is the responsibility of the student to request make-up work from his/her teachers. Requests must be made within two days after the student returns to school. Teachers are responsible to provide the work and/or to make arrangements for tests or quizzes within the limits as

outlined above. Teachers may provide alternate assignments, tests, etc., that are of equal value to the work that the student missed.

WASHINGTON'S BECCA BILL

The Becca Bill requires that the school file truancy petitions with the court if a student has a certain number of absences. The following is a summary of the law:

One (1) or Two (2) Unexcused Absences

After a single unexcused absence, the school will contact the parents by phone and/or letter. After a second unexcused absence, the school will attempt to schedule a conference with the parent and student to discuss possible solutions to the truancy problem.

Five (5) Unexcused Absences

If a student has five (5) unexcused absences in any one month, the school may file a petition with the court, enter into a written truancy agreement with the student and parent or guardian, and/or take other reasonable action.

Seven (7) and Ten (10) Unexcused Absences

The school is required by the law to file a petition in court against the student, parent, or both when a student has seven (7) unexcused absences in any one month or ten (10) in a year.

The court can impose a number of different sanctions in response to a petition from the

school. A chronically absent student could be found in contempt of court, sentenced to community service, compulsorily enrolled in an alternative education program, and/or incarcerated in a juvenile detention facility. Additionally, parents may be found in contempt of court and fined each day that the student is absent.

ACADEMICS

Credit Requirements	Class of 2010	Class of 2011 & 2012	Class of 2012 or Beyond	<p>To be eligible to earn a diploma and graduate, Mount Rainier High School students must earn a Certificate of Academic Achievement or a Certificate of Individual Achievement</p> <p>- and -</p> <p>successfully complete:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> All credit</p>
Language Arts	3.5	3.5	4.	
Social Studies	3.0	3.0	3.	
Mathematics	2.0	3.0	3.	
Science	2.0	2.0	2.	
Health & Fitness	2.0	2.0	2.0	
Occupational Education	1.0	1.0	1.0	
Fine Arts	1.0	1.0	1.0	
Electives	8.5	7.5	7.0	
Total	23.0	23.0	23.0	

Credit and Class Level Guidelines:

1st semester
(September)
Grade 10—at least
5.0 credits
Grade 11—at least
11.0 credits
Grade 12—at least
16.0 credits*

*Please note: students MUST have at least 16.0 credits in September to be given senior

status for the current school year.

2nd semester
(February)
Grade 9—at least 2.5
credits
Grade 10—at least
8.0 credits
Grade 11—at least
13.0 credits

Ways to Retrieve Credit:

- ☐ Highline Summer School (registration information available in May)
- ☐ OSC Summer School
- ☐ Work Credit (juniors and seniors only)
- ☐ Running Start (juniors and seniors only)
- ☐ Camp Waskowitz environmental education (10-12th grade only, 0.5 maximum elective credit allowed)

<p>Students who feel they are not challenged by or engaged in their classes should:</p>	<p>Parents who are concerned their child is not being adequately challenged should:</p>
---	---

- Check to be sure they are fulfilling all current expectations of the teacher.
- Speak with their teacher regarding their concerns. Ask for more feedback on their work.
- Ask the teacher for supplementary work they could explore on their own.
- Find other work related to class and/or personal interest. Our librarian (or a community librarian) or your parent could help you with your search.

If the situation is not remedied:

- Share their concern with a parent and school counselor and seek guidance on how to proceed.
- Speak with a building administrator to seek further solutions.

- Seek to understand the nature of the class by talking with their student and the teacher about the course syllabus and the behavior expectations.
- Ensure your child is actively participating in his/her education during the school hours by talking with the teacher about the quality of work of the student and the academic expectations of the teacher.
- Monitor the study habits of their student to ensure the student is doing all he/she can to maximize the challenge of the work.
- Ask teachers for regular progress reports.

If the situation is not remedied:

- Discuss your concern in a parent/teacher conference arranged with a school

Dropping a Class

Dropping a class after 10 days may result in a failing grade.

Withdrawal and Transfer

Permission is required before a student may withdraw or transfer. Please see your counselor for instructions before withdrawing from school or transferring to another school. All fees and fines must be paid before a transcript will be forwarded (RCW 28A.635.060).

Grading Criteria

NC-Grade

- Extended illness and failing class
- Circumstances beyond the student's control-student has done the work, is trying hard and not succeeding and/or needs to retake the class
(counselor/parent conference required)
- Present and turns in assignments but does not have the skill level to earn a passing grade
(parent/counselor conference required)
- Entered class late and did not complete

enough work to earn credit-parent and student informed prior to enrollment

- Other extenuating circumstances (parent conference required)

F-Grade

- Non-completed assignments
- Truancy
- Failure on a test
- Discipline referrals from the class
- Not meeting the academic standards to

assign a passing
grade

I-Grade

- Absent at end of term for an excused reason and needs to complete some work and assessment
- In the teacher's professional judgment, extenuating circumstances indicate that the student deserves a chance to finish work/assessment (reason given to administrator with timeline included)
- Any "I" grade will change to an "F" grade after two weeks or within indicated timeline

W-Grade

- If a student is registered in a class but does not attend for 20 consecutive days, the student will be withdrawn
- When a student transfers to another school without completing the requirements for the class
- One TA class per semester
- Four total semesters allowed
- Grade is Pass/Fail
- Letter grade earned when course description is on file and contract is signed with administrator approval

Criteria for TA's

ASB, ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

Research studies have shown that students who participate in their school activities earn higher grades, experience leadership opportunities, learn practical work skills, and become competitive and interested in their school. Participation in school activities is often a good predictor of success later in life.

Athletics

Students interested in trying out for athletic teams should first obtain a copy of the Highline School District Handbook for Student Activities. Guidelines for discipline are outlined in the Handbook. To participate on any athletic team a student must have:

- Activity Participation Form with all sections completed

- Emergency Card Information Card
- ASB Card

Athletic Teams

Fall	Winter	Spring
Cross	Boys'	Baseball
Country	Basketball	Fastpitch
Football	Girls'	Boys' Soccer
Golf	Basketball	Tennis
Girls'	Gymnastics	Track &
Soccer	Boys'	Field
Girls'	Swimming	
Swimming	Wrestling	
Girls'		
Volleyball		

ASMR officers:

ASB President: Chau Phan
 ASB Vice-President: Brooke Luchau
 ASB Secretary: John Russell
 ASB Treasurer: Aislinn McManigal

Assemblies

There are primarily two types of assemblies, pep assemblies and general assemblies. A pep assembly is a noisemaking assembly, while a general assembly is just the opposite. Good standards of conduct are in order at both types of assemblies. All backpacks should be left in lockers or classrooms, and failure to comply with staff requests may result in disciplinary action.

Mount Rainier Clubs

A-Team	Amnesty	ASMR
	International	

Athletic Training	FFA	Multicultural Club
Band	French	Polynesian Cultural Club
Chess	GSA	Ram's Horn
Choir	Honor Society	Shades of Color
CIA	Interact	Spanish Club
Debate	Junior State of America	Yearbook
DECA	Key Club	
Drama	Knowledge Bowl	
FCA	Latino Club	
FCCLA	Math Team	

School Dances

All students attending dances must be under 21 years of age. Students are not allowed to leave dances and then return. Students may invite a guest who is not a Mount Rainier student to Homecoming, Winter Ball, Grub Tolo, and/or Prom but must receive prior permission from administration to do so.

Arrangements for advisors, chaperones, security, work crews, and financing must be made before approval for a dance will be given. Prior permission means the appropriate forms must be turned into the activities office the day before the dance. All students must have a valid Student ID Card to enter dances.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Annuals

Our high school annual, THE TOR is published each year. It includes pictures of students, staff, activities, athletics and other events

from the school year. Annuals are available only on a first-come first-serve basis, therefore order and reserve your copy early. They are handed out in the spring of each year.

Breakfast and Lunch

Our breakfast and lunch procedure is computerized. Each student will have an identification number, which will be used as his or her lunch card. There is no lunch charging. A student must have money in their lunch account or cash in order to purchase lunch. Deposits to lunch accounts may be made to the bookkeeper. Free and reduced lunch applications are available in the Main Office and must be properly completed, signed and returned. Students are required to pickup trays and keep the cafeteria clean. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

Closed Campus

All schools in the Highline School District have a closed campus requiring all students to remain on school grounds from the time of arrival until officially dismissed.

Individual high school principals, with superintendent's approval, may specify under what conditions students may be granted permission to leave school grounds in order to have off-campus lunch. At Mount Rainier only seniors and juniors in good standing will be given permission to leave campus at lunch.

Bus Procedures

It is the responsibility of the Highline School District to pick up and deliver students to their designated bus stop. Students may leave the bus only at their regularly designated stop unless they present special authorization to the driver signed by building administration. Violation of bus rules may result in temporary or permanent removal of bus privileges. *All school rules apply at bus stops* (WAC 180.40.230).

Community Resources Numbers

Alcohol and Drug Abuse 783-3722
Child protective Services 721-6500
Crisis Clinic 461-3222
Family Reconciliation Services 721-6500
Highline/West Seattle Mental Health 241-8226
Ruth Dykeman Youth & Family Services 243-5544
Teen Link 461-3200
Youth Health Center . 439-9300

Computer Network

All students must have an Appropriate Use Form signed by parent and student and on file in order to use the school's computers and/or access the Internet. The network is provided for students to conduct research, complete classroom tasks, and communicate with others. Failure to comply with district and school rules may result in loss of network access and disciplinary action by administration.

Emergency Bulletin

Fire and earthquake drills are required by law. They will be held at regular intervals.

Lock down drills will be conducted as well. They are important and should be approached seriously. Students are expected to maintain classroom conduct throughout the entire drill and to become informed of the exit route for each of their classrooms.

Handbook Changes

Changes in the student handbook may be made during the school year by the school authorities. Such changes will be made available in writing to students.

Homework

Upon return from an excused absence, students are expected to contact each teacher for assignments or missed tests. Students who are absent more than three school days can coordinate with the counseling center for homework pickup. Teachers are not required to provide students who are truant the opportunity to make up work.

Immunizations

In order to protect children against a number of childhood diseases, Washington Law (RCW 28A.210.060) requires that all children admitted to public and nonpublic schools be immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, measles, rubella, mumps, and Hepatitis B, as appropriate. Students may be excluded if they do not meet the requirements of this law.

Lockers

Lockers and locks are available to students upon request. Students must keep the lockers clean and secured with the school-supplied lock (locks are not to be brought from home). Students are liable for any cost of cleaning and/or repairs. If a locker does not operate correctly, please notify the teacher. School personnel will retain a master key for all lockers. Combinations will not be changed during the school year.

The school accepts no responsibility for lost or stolen items. It is highly recommended that students do not store money, purses, or other valuable items in lockers - the security of all locker contents are the sole responsibility of the student.

Lockers are school property and may be inspected periodically as a general inspection of school property. Lockers can also be searched when there is reasonable suspicion of inappropriate contents (RCW 28A.600.220). The privilege of using lockers may be revoked at any time.

Medication

Every effort should be made to schedule the administration of medication outside of school hours. If this is not possible, it must be understood by the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) that the medication be administered by the school nurse, or by the teacher, principal, health assistant or secretary in the absence of the school nurse.

All prescription and non-prescription medication will be kept in a locked cabinet. Exceptions must have a doctor's note and be cleared through the school nurse. Medication must be properly labeled with the student's name, name of medication, dosage, and time to be administered.

Student Property

Students should not bring any items of value to school. The School District assumes no responsibility for loss to student's personal property. Any item that could create a disruption to the educational process may be confiscated.

Tips to minimize risk of stolen property:

- Do not bring items of value to school
- Do not lend valuable items to friends or acquaintances
- Do not leave valuable items unattended - including in your vehicle
- Save all receipts
- Record the make, model number, and serial number of any items of value
- Make identifiable markings on your items so it can be easily recognized, such as engraving a driver's license number.
- If possible, password protect electronic devices

Students leaving Campus during the School Day

Students must check out through the attendance office before leaving school grounds. A note from the parent/guardian or phone approval is required before the student leaves the school. Students who leave without signing out will be subject to disciplinary action and the absence will be marked as truancy.

Visitors

Visitors are not allowed unless there is an educational value to the visitor(s) or the school. Visitors must meet with the principal designee for prior approval. Generally speaking, no school-aged visitors are allowed. All visitors to the school must check in at the main office and receive appropriate identification.

Websites

Mount Rainier High School Website:

www.hsd401.org

Highline School District Website:

www.hsd401.org

HSD Calendar: calendar.hsd401.org

PTSA Website: www.mrhsptsa.org

STUDENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

The rules contained herein are meant to regulate student conduct at school and at school-sponsored activities as well as any off-campus conduct that may adversely affect

the school-learning climate. Depending on the circumstance of the violation and in compliance with state law and the rules of the State Board of Education school authorities may impose discipline, short-term suspension, long-term suspension or expulsion. This list is not all-inclusive. (See *Responsibilities and Rights*, Highline School District publication.)

Alcoholic Beverages and Other Drugs

Possession, use and/or being under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances (or product purporting to be), paraphernalia, on or adjacent to school property, in vehicles off the school grounds at school-sponsored events will not be tolerated. (For discipline related to selling or distributing these substances, see *Responsibilities and Rights*, Highline School District publication.)

- **First Offense:** Long term suspension of up to 90 school days, reduced to 5 days upon appointment by the parent or guardian for an assessment and counseling at a certified drug/alcohol treatment facility. Continuation in school is dependent upon the presentation of evidence that recommendations resulting from the assessment are being followed. If they are not followed the student will be removed from school for the remaining 85 days of the suspension. If a students chooses to reduce their long-term suspension to five days, they waive their right to a hearing

- **Repeated Offenses:** Long-term suspension of up to the remainder of the current semester with assessment, counseling and treatment as stated above with no reduction of time, (if within 60 days of the end of a semester the suspension will be through the end of the following semester). Discipline related to alcoholic beverages and/or other drugs is cumulative throughout a student's education.

Assault

A student who injures, attempts to injure, or threatens to injure someone else commits an assault. An assault may be committed without actually striking or injuring another person if a threat or action reasonably places the other person in fear of harm. Any student involved in an assault will be subject to long-term suspension or expulsion.

Bicycles, Skateboards, Scooters, Shoes with Wheels, and In-Line Skates

Students are prohibited from riding these or similar devices at school or school activities without the approval of the principal. Students are not permitted to carry these items around with them during the school day. These items can be disruptive, can present a safety hazard and may be confiscated.

Cell Phones, CD Players, iPods, and Other Electronic Devices

A student that uses any device that disrupts the educational environment will be subject to disciplinary action. These items must remain turned off and not used during class time. Students must obey the lawful instructions of school district personnel including surrendering electronic devices as part of a progressive discipline policy.

Thefts of high dollar items can be devastating to victims which in turn disrupts learning. The Mount Rainier High School staff will not investigate electronics theft complaints. Theft investigations of electronic devices or other valuable items take time and attention away from other safety and security issues. Students bringing these or similar items to school are doing so solely at their own risk and the school will not be held liable for lost or stolen property.

Cheating / Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the taking of language, ideas or thought from another person or source and representing them as original work. Students who use plagiarized papers or projects or are involved in any other form of cheating will be subject to:

- **First Offense:** Reduction in grades and/or disciplinary action
- **Second Offense:** May be subject to removal from class and/or failing grade

Disruption of the Educational Process

Students must obey the reasonable instructions of School District personnel. Conduct that interferes with the educational process is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action. Students who willfully create a disturbance on school premises during school hours or at school activities shall be guilty of a misdemeanor (RCW 28.635.030) and subject to discipline, suspension, expulsion, and/or arrest. Multiple offenses of a less serious nature by themselves are often a greater impact of the educational process than is a single major offense. Multiple offenses of any nature may result in suspension or expulsion. Offenses are cumulative throughout the student's education regardless of which school district the student has previously attended.

Dress and Appearance

The Highline School District and school staff believe that learning best occurs in a positive atmosphere. To that end, students should report to school each day neat and clean. Appearance expectations will be enforced throughout the campus. Appearance which causes disruption of the educational process or presents health or safety issues will not be allowed. The following are the appearance expectations:

- Head coverings are not permitted except those worn specifically for religious purposes or related to a medical condition.
- Clothes are to be clean and in good repair. Clothing with holes is not acceptable.
- Shoes are to be worn at all times.
- Clothing or tattooing with inappropriate language or any reference to tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or gang affiliation (see gang activity) is not allowed.
- Shorts, skirts, and dresses are to be long enough to maintain modesty while standing or sitting. These items should reach mid-thigh.
- Pants should not have to be held up with a hand when walking. The waistband of the pants must be worn at the waist.
- Piercings must not present health or safety

issues to the
individual or

other students.

Inappropriate Clothing

Our goal is to create a positive learning environment. While our student population is at an age of experimentation, working very hard at trying to define their own personal style, we encourage appropriate judgment. The following are examples of inappropriate clothing. This list is not all-inclusive.

- Bare shoulders/backless tops
- Exposed mid-riff and/or cleavage
- Exposed undergarments
- Half Shirts
- Halter tops
- Hanging chains
- Sagging pants
- Sharp protruding objects
- Short shorts / high cut skirts
- Single strap shirts
- Spaghetti straps
- Tank top/muscle shirts (boys)
- Transparent clothing
- Promotion of alcohol, drugs, sex, racism, non-tolerance, profanity, obscene language, and/or violence

Failure to Identify

Students who fail to identify themselves will be subject to suspension.

Fighting

Fighting will be defined as a physical altercation causing a disruption of the educational process. A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause physical injury to any person. Fight promotion will be defined as any action that encourages or incites a fight through teasing, harassing, threatening, failure to disperse, or encouraging a fight to start or continue. Discipline for fighting is cumulative throughout a student's education. Fighting may constitute a crime and legal authorities may be notified.

Fighting:

- **First offense:** 45-day suspension (or the end of the quarter), that can be held in abeyance and reduced to a 5-day suspension upon enrollment in and continued work toward completion of an anger management class.
- **Second offense:** 90-day suspension (or end of the semester)
- **Third offense:** Expulsion

Inciting and/or Supporting Aggression:

- **First offense:** 3-day suspension
- **Second offense:** 5-day suspension
- **Third offense:** 10-day suspension
- **Fourth offense:** Long term suspension
- **Fifth offense:** Expulsion

Forgery

The forging of a signature of a parent or guardian, teacher or other staff member, or another student on any letter to the school

or on any school document will result in discipline and/or suspension. Falsely representing any of the above-mentioned in any way will result in disciplinary action. Self-signed notes will not be accepted in lieu of parent signature.

Gambling

Gambling and illegal activities are subject to suspension

Gang Activity or Association

The type of dress, apparel, activities, acts, behavior or manner or grooming displayed, reflected, or participated in by the student shall not:

- Lead school officials to reasonably believe that such behavior, apparel, activities, acts, or other attributes are gang related and would disrupt or interfere with the school environment or activity and/or educational objectives;
- Present a physical hazard to self, students, staff, and other employees;
- Create an atmosphere in which a student, staff, or other person's well-being is hindered by undue pressure, behavior, intimidation, overt gesture or threat of violence;
- Imply gang membership or affiliation by written communication, marks, drawing, painting, design, emblem upon any school or personal property, or on one's person.
(*Highline School District Policy 3245F/ Gang Contract*)

Any article of clothing, bandana, belt buckle, badge, sign, lettering, hairdo, jewelry, emblem, symbol or other personal display or adornment, which is intended by the student or is recognized or acknowledged by students, school administration, and/or police to designate a gang symbol and/or to signify affiliation with, participation in and/or approval of a gang are strictly prohibited. The school's administrators, with the help of the Police Department, will maintain a current list of recognized gang apparel and symbols that are prohibited.

Hall Conduct

In order to make halls safe: running, pushing, and tripping are prohibited. Students may not block building or classroom entrances, sidewalks, hallways or otherwise disrupt campus. Congregation of groups of students in these areas is prohibited at all times for safety reasons.

Hall Passes

Students are not permitted in the halls during class periods unless a teacher accompanies them or they have a hall pass from an authorized staff member. A pass should have student name, teacher name, destination, and time included. Students who abuse this privilege may be denied hall passes.

Harassment - Malicious, Racial, or Sexual/Bullying

Conduct designed to trouble, worry, torment, or degrade an individual is harassment.

Harassment is prohibited and will include but not be limited to the following:

- Unwelcome sexual advances
- Requests for favors
- Uninvited verbal/written comments or touching
- Threats of violence or of a violent nature
- Hate literature, graffiti, defacing of personal property
- Degrading a person's race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, mental or physical or sensory handicapping, and/or sexual orientation

Disciplinary action will be appropriate and responsive. Factors to consider in determining the appropriateness and responsiveness of disciplinary action will include, but not be limited to:

- Severity and frequency of the harassment
- Age of the harasser and the victim
- Harasser's attitude and intent
- Effect it has on other students and / or staff
- Mitigating circumstances
- Relationship of the harasser to the victim
- Student's disciplinary history

The consequences may include restricted access to school district property and activities, short or long-term suspension, or expulsion.

Internet Access Abuse, Unauthorized Use of Technology, and Electronic Devices

Abuse of Internet access includes engaging in vulgar or obscene behavior by intentionally accessing and/or downloading vulgar or obscene materials. Allowing access or communicating downloaded material to others will be treated as an aggravating circumstance. This offense also includes vulgar or obscene expressions communicated to others by Internet access originating from school facilities. Tampering with electronic hardware, data files, or software or unauthorized access to, or use, of such technology is also prohibited. This includes pagers, cell phones, and other personal electronic devices.

Insubordination

Students are required to obey the reasonable requests of all staff members. Willful disobedience will result in suspension or expulsion. Students are required to identify themselves to all staff members of the Highline School District. Failure to do so shall be construed as insubordinate conduct and a threat to school security and will result in disciplinary action.

Insults or Abuse

Any verbal abuse and/or insults directed at staff members will result in discipline up to and including suspension.

Library Resource Center

The purpose of the MRHS Library is to provide students and staff with access to ideas and information. The library program supports the mission, goals, and objectives of the school and is fully integrated into the curriculum. Library staff members encourage and engage students in reading and research for both understanding and enjoyment. We strive to provide books, materials and Internet access to support classroom needs as well as the needs and interests of every student.

- A library pass is used for student entry during class times.
- No cell phones, I-Pods, or other electronic devices are permitted in the library.
- No food or drinks are allowed in the library. Bottled water is permitted as long as it is kept away from tables and computers.

Loitering

Loitering is not allowed in any hallway or on campus at any time. Students are expected to promptly leave campus after the last class unless attending a school activity. Students may not return to campus for any reason outside of their scheduled school day including using the activity bus.

Off-Campus Lunch

Only juniors and seniors in good standing are allowed to leave campus during lunch with an off-campus pass and parent permission. Any student who drives an ineligible student off campus will be subject to discipline including short-term suspension. Doing so will also lead to the possible loss of the off-campus privilege. Students are not to sit in their cars during the school day.

Parking

Students are required to register their vehicle to be allowed to park on campus. Unregistered vehicles will be issued tickets and repeated offenses may result in detention or suspension. Reckless driving and other unsafe activities may result in suspension and loss of parking privileges.

School Property

All students are expected to respect and care for all property of the school including building facilities. Any student losing, damaging, or defacing school property will be required to pay for the loss or damage. Police may be contacted. Student grades, transcripts, and diplomas will be withheld until all costs from damages have been paid.

Tobacco Use and Possession

Tobacco use is defined as possession, smoking or carrying of any kind of lighted smoking equipment or material, or chewing or sniffing of a tobacco product.

- **First Offense:** Confiscation of tobacco-use material, parent/guardian contacted and school assigned discipline and/or short-term suspension
- **Second Offense:** Confiscation of tobacco-use material, parent/guardian contacted and school assigned discipline and/or short-term suspension up to 15 days per semester, long-term suspension or expulsion from the Highline School District.

Discipline related to tobacco use is cumulative throughout a student's education.

Trespass

Being present in an unauthorized place on or adjacent to school grounds and/or refusing to leave when directed to do so will be subject to discipline.

Weapons

The Board of Directors of Highline School District No. 401 declares its intent not to tolerate possession of dangerous weapons by students on school district property or at school district-sponsored events. Student possession of a dangerous weapon on school district property or at school district-sponsored events creates a danger to students and staff and is disruptive to the operation of schools.

1. Students who possess a dangerous weapon or who carry, exhibit, display, or draw any dangerous weapon, looks like a weapon, any toy that looks like a weapon, or any other weapon apparently capable of producing bodily harm in a manner, which, under the circumstances, manifests an intent to intimidate another or warrants alarm for the safety of others shall be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.
2. Possession definition is the same as in the Responsibilities and Rights Handbook.
3. Dangerous weapon definition is the same as in the Responsibilities and Rights Handbook.
4. Discipline guidelines are the same as in the Responsibilities and Rights Handbook.

Mount Rainier High School follows the
Highline School District
Responsibilities and Rights Handbook
for any situation not listed in this
Student Handbook.

Mount Rainier High School complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate in admission, access, treatment, or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, marital status, disability, gender, sexual orientation, age, or military status. This holds true for all students who are interested in

*participating in educational programs
and/or extracurricular activities.*

Any person having inquiries should
contact:

Americans with Disabilities
Act:206-433-2281
Section 504 of the
Rehabilitation Act: 206-433-
2413
Title IX:206-433-2418