



SAUK RAPIDS-RICE MIDDLE SCHOOL

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2023-2024

SAUK RAPIDS-RICE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



A path for every student.

Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School
2023-2024
Table of Contents

Welcome to Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School	5
District Strategic Initiative	7
ACADEMICS	8
Academic Honesty	8
Alternative Programs	8
Band	8
Grading	8
Grade Point Average (GPA)	9
Homework	9
Honor Roll	10
Statewide Assessments	10
ACTIVITIES	10
Academic Eligibility	10
Activity Fees	11
Activity Passes	11
Attendance Policy for Activities	11
Community Education Opportunities	12
Due Process for Athletics and Extracurricular Activities	12
Spectator Behavior	12
Transportation for Activities	12
ATTENDANCE	13
Attendance Information	13
Absences - Excused	13
Absences - Unexcused	14
Make-up Work	14
Prearranged Absences	14
School Sponsored Absences	14
Tardy Protocol	14
Truancy	14
CAMPUS PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES	15
Backpack and Coats in the Classroom	15
Before School and After School Expectations	15
Beverages	15
Bicycles and other Personalized Transportation	15
Cell Phones and Personal Electronic Devices	16
Closed Campus	16
Detention	16
Dress Guidelines	17
e-Learning Days (weather related and distance learning)	17
Flowers/Balloons	17
Food and Beverage	17
Harmful and Disruptive Items	17
Incident Reporting	18
Lost and Found	18

Lunchroom Expectations and Procedures	18
Media Center	19
Morning Arrival	19
Passes/Halls	19
Public Displays of Affection	19
School Property	20
Telephone Calls/Messages	20
Storm After School	20
Storm Blast	20
Visitors	21
CODE OF CONDUCT/STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR	21
Code of Conduct Statement	21
Bus Expectations	21
PBIS/Core Values	22
Student Engagement – Respect – Responsibility	22
Tennessen	22
COMMUNICATION	23
Conferences	23
Line of Communication	23
Parent/Guardian Messages for Students	23
Printed/Posted Materials	23
Report Cards	23
School Announcements	23
School Closings / Emergencies	24
School Telephones	24
DISTRICT POLICIES	24
District Policies	24
Alcohol/Drugs/Tobacco Free	24
Background Checks	24
Bullying Prohibition	25
Culture of Respect and Acceptance	25
Harassment and Violence	25
Mandated Reporting	25
Weapons	26
GENERAL INFORMATION	26
Directory Information (Public Data)	26
Educational Benefits	27
Fundraisers	27
Insurance for Students	27
Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)	28
Pledge of Allegiance	29
Student Records	29
SAFETY AND SECURITY	29
Crisis Management/Situational Awareness	29
Searches	30
Suicide Prevention	30
Trespass Notice	30
SERVICES	30
Counseling and Guidance Services	30
Food Services	31
Health Services	32
School Resource Officer	33

Student Advocacy Services	33
Suicide Prevention	34
TECHNOLOGY	34
Technology in our Schools	34
Student Technology	35
Responsible Use/Digital Citizenship	35
Personal Electronic Devices	35
Social Media Guidelines	36
Use of Online Resources	36
TRANSPORTATION	36
Bus Transportation	36
Extracurricular Transportation	37
Parent/Guardian Drop Off and Pick-Up	37
APPENDIX	38
Calendar	39
Daily Schedule	40
Schoology/Skyward	42
SRRMS Communication Guide	43
SRR Matrix	44
Policy Reference Table	45
MCA Testing Opt Out Form	47

Welcome to Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School!

This handbook and its contents have been approved by the Sauk Rapids-Rice School Board for the 2023-2024 school year. The contents of this handbook may be subject to change throughout the school year. Notification of significant changes will be made to parents/guardians as necessary.

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year!

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of the Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School staff, we welcome you with great anticipation for the 2023-2024 school year. This letter is not only a welcome to our school, but also to the partnership that we feel is paramount to the success of our students. We encourage your involvement, communication, and presence at school and feel that through such collaborative efforts we are able to provide a special place for our students to thrive. We are excited to continue our tradition of great success in teaching middle school aged students and supporting them academically, socially, and emotionally as they transition from an elementary setting in sixth grade to being prepared for middle school. The following handbook outlines school policies and guidelines that help to ensure that all students have a safe, productive, and fulfilling middle school experience. These policies and guidelines apply to all school-sponsored events.

To support our students’ learning, we are excited about the opportunity to provide each student at SRRMS an iPad to use in school and at home. This will provide learning opportunities and access for our students who now live in a world where the successful and responsible use of technology is necessary. iPads are an important tool to help students collaborate, create, communicate, and think critically. Like any tool, an iPad also has limitations and requires appropriate standards for use. We encourage all parents/guardians to be actively involved in supporting the use of the iPad as an educational tool. Parent/Guardian meetings, communications, and other supports will be available to parents/guardians throughout the year; please take advantage of these opportunities!

Parents/Guardians can do a great deal at home to enhance the learning of their child(ren). Please consider applying the following research-based tips in your household:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Support good study habits● Take an active interest in your child’s schoolwork and experience● Be a reading role model● Have conversations with your child about technology and how it is appropriately used● Encourage writing and journaling● Encourage family learning games● Keep informed about what is happening at your child’s school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Monitor your child’s organization and daily list of assignments● Be supportive when your child gets frustrated with difficult assignments● Understand that time required for assignment completion will vary, and keep communication open with teachers when it seems inordinate● Observe a growth mindset:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Growth mindset animation○ The power of belief - mindset and success● Make sure your child has proper nutrition and sleep
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use positive reinforcement• Teach your child to respect and include others• Volunteer• Contact teachers to stay informed• Check grades on Skyward Family Access on a regular basis• Check Schoology on a regular basis and ask your child about assignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listen to your child• Encourage family discussion• Spend time with your child• Closely monitor use of technology• Closely monitor student use of social media
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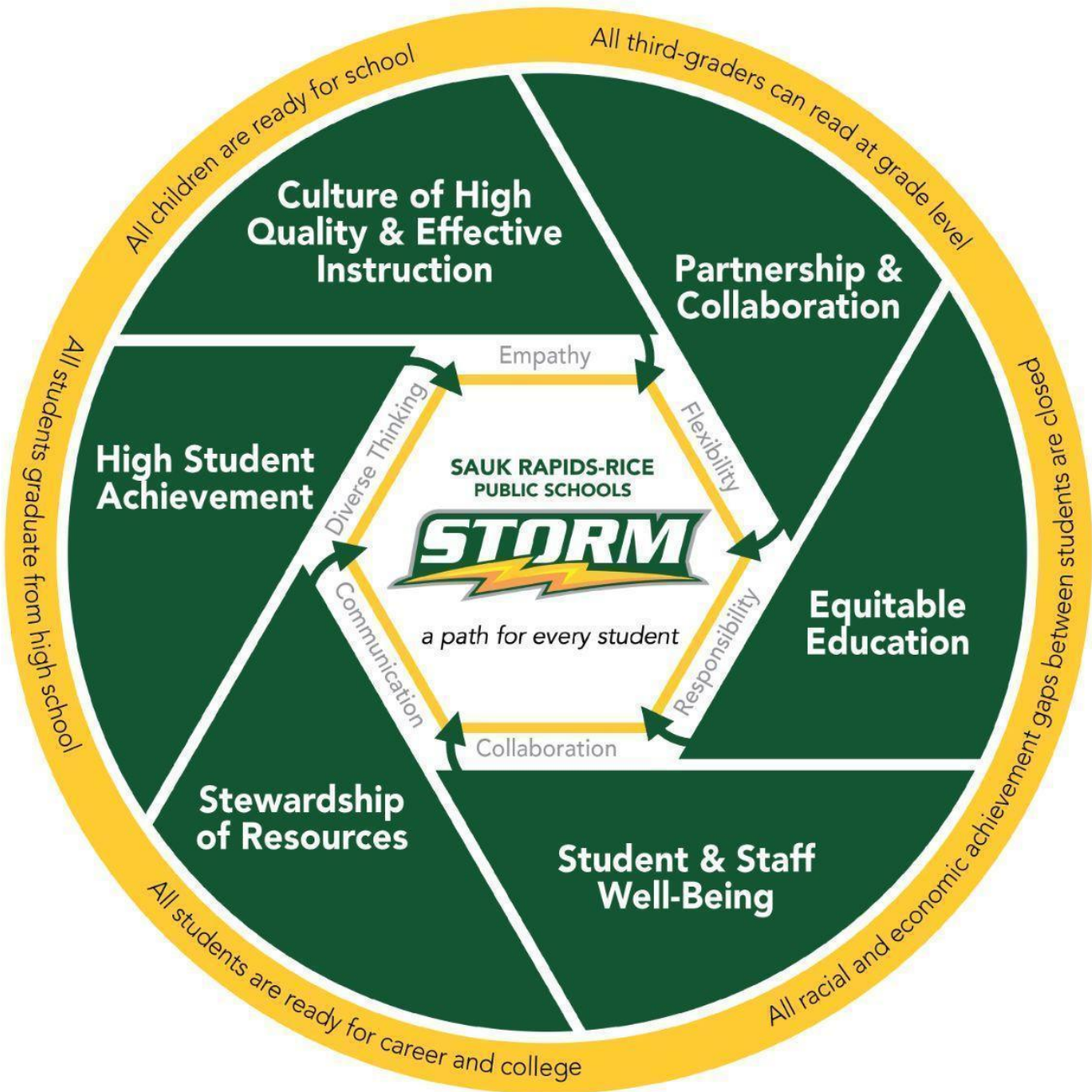
Sincerely,

Ms. Laura Arndt - SRRMS Principal

Mr. Nic Johnson - SRRMS Assistant Principal

Strategic Plan

The System



- Portrait of a Graduate
- Professional Development
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support
- Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports
- Professional Learning Communities

ACADEMICS

Academic Honesty

All students are expected to exhibit personal honesty in their work and expect the same from others. Students are expected to do their own work in all cases except when teachers give explicit instruction or permission to work with others.

Academic dishonesty is any attempt to secure an assignment or assessment score that does not reflect the original, authentic work of the student. As a guiding principle, academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on school assessments (formative or summative), plagiarism or collusion.

Students are responsible for knowing and avoiding the various forms and levels of academic dishonesty which may include, but are not limited to the classifications below:

- Copying homework or allowing someone to copy your homework.
- Letting a project partner do all the work and just putting your name on the final project.
- Sharing test questions and/or answers on a test with other students either verbally or electronically.
- Looking at another student's test/quiz or allowing another student(s) to copy a test/quiz.
- Submitting other's work as your own with or without the other person's knowledge (i.e., plagiarism).
- Submitting the same paper or substantially similar papers to meet the requirements of more than one or the same course without the prior approval of instructors concerned.
- Using an AI tool to give a false representation of understanding on an academic evaluation when it has not been authorized by the instructor.

In addition, a student who allows others to use their work in fulfillment of class requirements will also be held accountable. Work in question will be confiscated.

Per Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL), Academic dishonesty will be assessed as a Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) violation for those students involved in activities. Penalties assessed will be determined by the principal and/or activities director.

Alternative Programs

Band

School owned instruments may be rented by students for approximately \$100.00 per year, (\$20.00 for percussionists). The band instructors will issue the instrument when presented with a receipt of payment. Payment of rental fees may be handled through the office.

Grading

The school year is divided into three (3), 12-week trimesters. Academic classes and report cards will be issued at the end of each 12-week period. The following grades will be used:

A =	Outstanding work
B =	Strong work, clearly above average
C =	Acceptable work
D =	Poor, but passing work
F =	Failing and unacceptable work
I =	Incomplete work due to illness or special circumstances approved by the teacher/team.

Students receiving an "I" will have two weeks from the date grades are issued to change the "I" to a passing grade. Failing to make up the work in the allotted time will result in the "I" being changed to an "F". School administration has the option of granting additional time, when conditions warrant. Pass (P) or Fail (F) marks may be used to grade classes or in special circumstances arranged by guidance counselors and administration.

Any grade changes allowed by teachers will be done within two weeks of the date grades are issued.

Grades are to reflect a student's knowledge or skill in a content area.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

All classes, including core and allied arts, are used to calculate honor rolls and GPA. Honor rolls will be posted at the end of each trimester.

Homework

It is the intention of the Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School staff to assign relevant, challenging, and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Homework allows students the opportunity to practice skills, to promote competence, and to explore or to apply knowledge to new settings. Homework informs teachers and guides for future learning.

Responsibilities:

Students:

- Use class time productively
- Ask questions to clarify and extend learning
- Record/Write down your assignments
- Produce quality work
- Work on homework independently so that it reflects your ability
- Complete assignments on time
- Check your grades weekly
- Check teachers' online resources

Parents/Guardians:

- Contact teachers to stay well informed about your child's learning progress
- Check grades on Skyward Family Access on a regular basis
- Check teachers' online resources
- Monitor your child's organization and daily list of assignments in their agenda as needed
- Make sure your child has proper nutrition and sleep
 - Research says eight (8) to ten (10) hours of sleep is necessary for middle school students
- Be supportive when your child gets frustrated with difficult assignments
- The actual time required to complete assignments will vary with your child's study habits, academic skills, and course load
 - If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time doing homework, you should contact your child's teachers

Staff:

- Connect homework to learning goals and standards
- Use homework to inform and guide instruction
- Assign relevant, challenging, and meaningful homework to practice skills, to promote competence, and to explore or to apply knowledge to new settings
- Give clear instructions and make sure students can complete the assignment independently
- Give timely feedback
- Communicate with other teachers to coordinate homework workload
- Involve parents/guardians and communicate with them if a pattern of late or incomplete homework develops

- Daily work should not EXCEED more than 25% of a student's grade

Honor Roll

All classes, including core and allied arts, are used to calculate honor rolls and GPA. Honor rolls will be posted at the end of each trimester with the following guidelines with respect to grade point average:

The grade point average necessary to qualify for the honor roll is:

A Honor Roll - 3.667 and higher

B Honor Roll - 3.000 - 3.666

Statewide Assessments

Statewide assessments are used to ensure that our curriculum and instruction are aligned with Minnesota's academic standards, ensuring an equitable education for all students. Statewide assessments, in conjunction with other formative and summative assessments, help SRR staff to monitor instruction as we prepare students to enter the workforce and to be engaged citizens.

Students in grades three through 11 will take the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA). As a district, we encourage all students to do their best on these tests as they help our teachers plan instruction to better meet student needs. Teachers and principals review areas where students show/demonstrate growth so they can reinforce the way they teach specific skills. They also look for areas that need improvement and evaluate the need to modify instruction and/or instructional time to better support student learning.

State tests are given to students once a year, based on a student's grade level and subject area. Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.31, Subd. 4a, requires the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) to publish a form for parents/guardians to complete if they refuse to have their student participate in state-required standardized tests. A family that decides to decline their student's participation in these assessments needs to sign and return the Parent/Guardian Guide and Refusal for Student Participation in Statewide Testing to their student's school office by January 15. The guide and refusal form can be found on the district's website here.

ACTIVITIES

Academic Eligibility

Current Status of All Participants

Students must maintain satisfactory academic performance in order to participate in extracurricular activities. During each grading period the activities office will monitor academic progress for all students registered for an extracurricular program. This will be done at the halfway point during the regular season for each activities' competitive season.

Participants who are failing will serve a two-week monitoring period, but can continue to practice and compete. Any student still failing at the end of the two-week monitoring period will be ineligible to compete. Students who are academically ineligible are still allowed to travel* and practice during this period. Students will remain ineligible to compete until earning a passing grade in all of their classes and receiving approval from the Activities Director.

*Students will be unable to leave school early to travel to away competitions

Failures from a Previous Grading Period

Any student registered for an extracurricular or co-curricular activity who has failed a class in either of the two previous trimesters will be ineligible for the next two contests. For activities with less than ten regular season events, the student will miss the first contest. The penalty will be served once and will be invoked in the first activity following the failed grade. Similar to other activity penalties, the penalty for a failed grade will be considered served upon the participant's successful completion of the entire season. Note: A student may be penalized in the fall for failed grades from either the previous winter or spring trimester.

Activity Fees

\$80

B/G Cross Country (6th-8th)

No Fee

Student Council (6th-8th)

Football (7th-8th)
B/G Soccer (6th-8th)
Volleyball (7th-8th)
B/G Swim and Dive (7th-8th)
B/G Tennis (6th-8th)
B/G Basketball (7th-8th)
Gymnastics (7th-8th)
Wrestling (6th-8th)
Baseball (7th-8th)
B/G Golf (7th-8th)
Softball (7th-8th)
B/G Track (6th-8th)
Knowledge Bowl (6th-8th)
Speech (6th-8th)
Drama (6th-8th)
Robotics (6th-8th)
Art Club (6th-8th)
B/G Nordic Ski (6th-8th)

Web Leaders (6th-8th)
Newspaper (6th-8th)
Yearbook (6th-8th)
Diggin' Diversity (6th-8th)
Spelling Bee (6th-8th)
Jazz Band (6th-8th)
Chamber Choir (6th-8th)
Math Masters/Math Counts (6th-8th)

Recommended Procedures for Fee Adjustment:

1. Students who are cut from an activity will be refunded the full fee.
2. Activity fees will be waived for students/families who reach the family cap of \$800.00.
3. In athletics, students injured during the first half of the sport season will be refunded half (½) of their fee if they are unable to continue in the activity for the rest of the season. Students injured during the last half of the season will not receive any refund of fees.
4. If a student begins an activity and then decides to quit of their own accord, they will not be eligible for any refund of fees.
5. Students who are suspended for rules violations will not be eligible for a fee refund.
6. Any student/family interested in a waiver of any fees must submit the [Educational Benefits Application](#) to the district office. If you have a question about having your fee waived, please see the activities director.
7. Students who qualify for Educational Benefits, may pay a reduced activity fee.

Activity Passes

Activity passes are available one line and in the activities office for adults and families. Passes are available for the 2023-2024 school year (fall and winter). Adult Season Pass = \$80.00, Family Season Pass = \$150.00, and an Adult Punch Card = \$25.00 (5 punches).

Attendance Policy for Activities

Students in activities are expected to be in attendance in order to participate or practice in an activity the same day. Any unexcused absence during the school day may impact participation in activities. Students in evening activities are expected to be in all of their classes the following day, or will not be allowed to participate in the next contest. No early release will be given for students leaving for an activity to get clothes, food, et cetera. Any student who participates in any SRRMS sponsored activities who are assigned all day in school suspension, dismissal or suspension from school will be ineligible to participate on that day.

Activities participants are expected to be at all practices, competitions, and performances. Absences and tardies, whether excused or unexcused, can and will impact participation. Consistent attendance is critical to the overall success of Storm Activities, because:

- Important information is shared at each practice, competition, and performance
- Practices prepare individuals to be both safe and help their programs be competitive/successful
- Consistent attendance demonstrates accountability, a desire for growth, and pride

Community Education Opportunities

Research shows that families who are involved in school related activities are more connected and more engaged in the school community.. Community Education offers a variety of seasonal activities throughout the year. These activities range from youth sports, cooking, robotics, and many more youth, adult and family opportunities. Families are encouraged to go online <https://www.isd47.org/community/community-education> to view the ISD 47 Community Newsletter to get involved in youth and adult activities.

Due Process for Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

Before a student is suspended from an extracurricular activity, the appropriate minimum due process components will be followed. They include:

1. Regulations governing the eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities and consequences of violations of these rules will be provided to all participants.
2. Students may be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities during an investigation of alleged violation.
3. Any student alleged to have violated the regulations will be provided an opportunity for a conference with the school administration to discuss the infraction, the evidence, and the decision.
4. In unique situations, the school administration may alter the details of the suspension.

Spectator Behavior

All are encouraged to attend, have fun, and positively support the Storm at events. Spectators represent our schools and community and are to follow the SRR Code of Conduct, the Central Lakes Conference (CLC) sportsmanship code, and the rules of the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL). All students and spectators are expected to show respect towards fellow students, opponents, players, coaches, and officials. Harassment of any kind, profanity, inappropriate gestures, and vulgar cheers are not allowed. Consequences for inappropriate behavior may include warnings, removal from the contest, suspension of attendance at future activities, and other school consequences as deemed necessary.

Transportation for Activities

All team or group members are expected to travel on-board the school-contracted transportation (bus, van, et cetera) with the team or group, to and from contests on trips where transportation is provided by the district. Under no circumstances should a student drive themselves or others to/from contests. The student may travel home from the event with their parents/guardians, only if the parent/guardian requests this of the head coach or activities director in advance and signs the student out with the coaches upon leaving. Any alternate transportation to and from contests must be arranged ahead of time with the activities office.

For practices off site, all students must provide a permission slip to drive or ride. Permission forms are available in the activities office.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Information

The school reserves the right to refuse excusing an absence. A student is allowed five (5) excused absences during each trimester. Once a student has five (5) absences during a trimester, all future absences will be considered unexcused unless medical documentation, signed by a medical authority* (*Medical doctor, clinical psychologist, physician assistant or nurse practitioner who has seen or treated the student) for the full absence, is presented to the school. An excused absence indicates an absence from school with parent/guardian and school permission. The following absences are considered excused within the five (5) days per trimester allowed:

Parents/Guardians are asked to email absences to srrmsoffice@isd47.org. If you are unable to email, please call the attendance administrative assistant at 320-654-9073, prior to 8:30 a.m., to report a student absence. After an absence, students are asked to bring a parent/guardian note to the attendance administrative assistant before 8:10 a.m. This note is required for the absence to be considered to be excused. A note from a parent/guardian does not guarantee that an absence is excused.

Students who have an approved pass to leave school during the school day must sign out in the main office to remain excused. Leaving school without prior permission from the parent/guardian and school constitutes truancy. If a student returns the same day, they are required to sign-in at the main office. For attendance purposes, a day includes absences from one or more class periods during the school day. The school reserves the right to refuse excusing an absence when requests become excessive.

Students who become ill during the school day must report to the health services office. If a student is sent home due to illness during the school day, health services office personnel will make the necessary arrangements (according to the emergency card). Students who are ill must never leave the building without reporting to the health services office and must have prior parent/guardian and school permission to leave. Students not attending their regular schedule or leaving the school building without arranging necessary permission of the health services personnel will be marked truant even if parents/guardians excuse the absence.

Absences - Excused

To be considered an excused absence, the student's parent/guardian may be asked to verify, in writing, the reason for the student's absence from school. A document signed by a medical authority* stating that the student cannot attend school is a valid excuse. Students who will be or have been absent and are returning to school will report to the main office to present a written verification, signed by their parent/guardian, stating the date(s) and reason for their absence.

(*Medical doctor, clinical psychologist, physician assistant or nurse practitioner who has seen or treated the student.)

The following reasons shall be sufficient to constitute excused absences:

1. Illness of the student
2. Serious illness in the student's immediate family
3. A death or funeral in the student's immediate family or of a close friend or relative
4. Medical, dental, or orthodontic treatment, or a counseling appointment, with verification from the provider. Or other appointments with verification or prior approval.
5. Court appearances occasioned by family or personal action
6. Religious instruction not to exceed three hours in any week (per district policy)
7. Physical emergency conditions such as fire, flood, storm, et cetera
8. Official school field trip or other school-sponsored outing
9. Removal of a student pursuant to a suspension (suspensions are to be handled as excused absences and students will be permitted to complete make-up work)
10. Family emergencies
11. Active duty in any military branch of the United States
12. A student's condition that requires ongoing treatment for a mental health diagnosis

Absences - Unexcused

Unexcused absence indicates that the student is absent from school for reasons other than those listed under Excused Absences. In the case of unexcused absences, the student may not be given make-up time for this absence and will be expected to be prepared for class immediately upon their return. This includes taking tests, turning in homework, and completing assignments or projects. The following are examples of absences that will not be excused:

1. Truancy (student absence that has not been approved by the parent/guardian and/or the school district)
2. Any absence in which the student failed to comply with any reporting requirements of the school district's attendance procedures
3. Work at home
4. Work at a business, except under a school-sponsored work release program
5. Vacations with family without pre-approval
6. Any other absence not included under the attendance procedures set out in school district policies and guidelines

Make-up Work

Students are required to make up all work due to absence. For each excused absence, students will be allowed two

(2) days to complete make-up work. If an assignment was due on the day a student was absent, this assignment will be due on the first day of the student's return.

It is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher and request make-up work. If a student does not complete the work within the allotted time, the teacher may adjust the credit received for the assignment or test. Larger assignments/projects that have been ongoing will follow the established due date regardless of the absence.

Prearranged Absences

Students who are absent because of activities, vacations, and other scheduled or pre-arranged activities should notify the middle school office at least two (2) days before their absence or the absence may be considered unexcused/truant. Homework should be completed in advance of the absence or other arrangements must be made with your teachers.

School Sponsored Absences

School sponsored absences are excused absences. Students involved in courses or school sponsored activities that will cause them to miss class time are responsible for notifying teachers prior to their absence. Students should work with teachers to ensure they are receiving and completing missing work. Students are responsible for making up work ahead of time when possible and/or when requested by teachers.

Tardy Protocol

Students arriving late to school must report directly to the main office. In general, consequences begin after the third (3rd) tardy. An hour of after school detention may be assigned for each tardy written up by staff. Exceeding five (5) tardies in a trimester may result in a meeting with the student, their parents/guardians, and administration to create a plan of action to best support the student.

Truancy

Truancy is an absence by a student that was not approved by the parent/guardian and/or the school district. A habitual truant is a child under the age of 17 years who is absent from attendance at school without lawful excuse for seven (7) school days if the child is in elementary school or for one (1) or more class periods on seven (7) school days if the child is in middle school, junior high school, or high school, or a child who is 16 or 17 years of age who is absent from attendance at school without lawful excuse for one (1) or more class periods on seven (7) school days and who has not lawfully withdrawn from school. A school district attendance officer shall refer a habitual truant child and the child's parent/legal guardian to appropriate services and procedures, under Minnesota Statute Ch. 260A. Benton, Stearns, and Sherburne counties each have truancy programs with differing criteria. The Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School will follow county guidelines regarding unexcused absences/truancy. The school will notify parents/guardians after three (3) such absences, notify the County Attorney's Office after five (5) such absences, and notify the County Human Social Service supervisor after seven (7) such absences.

CAMPUS PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES

Backpack and Coats in the Classroom

For safety purposes, backpacks and coats are not allowed in the classrooms without prior approval from administration or a staff member.

Before School and After School Expectations

School doors open to students at 7:15 a.m. Breakfast is served beginning at 7:30 a.m. and is free for all students. Students are expected to show respect and responsibility by cleaning up after themselves, keeping voices at an indoor level, being welcoming to all students, and staying in assigned morning locations. The first bell rings at 8:00 a.m. with classes starting at 8:10 a.m.

Classes end at 3:05 p.m. Buses depart Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School at approximately 3:15 p.m. Students not involved in an activity or attending Storm After School are to exit the building immediately after school. Parent/Guardian pick-up and drop off is at Door 1 on the south side of the building.

Beverages

No beverages, other than water, are allowed in the hallways or classrooms without prior approval from administration. Teachers may allow water bottles in the classroom.

Bicycles and other Personalized Transportation

Students riding a bike to school are asked to use the bike racks by door 6, on the west side of the building. Students are encouraged to lock them at all times during the school day. For the safety of others, bicycles need to be walked and skateboarders must carry their boards when on school grounds. In-line skates and tennis shoes with "heelies" are to be removed immediately upon entering the building. These rules pertain to before and after school hours as well.

Cell Phones and Personal Electronic Communication Devices

The use of cell phones and other personal electronic communication devices during the school day, from 8:10 a.m. to 3:05 p.m., is prohibited. If parents/guardians need to be in contact with their student, they are asked to call the main office.

Consequences for violating this procedure are as follows:

1st offense: Device is taken to the office for the student to pick up at the end of the school day; Teacher will communicate personal device expectations and create a plan for moving forward with the student.

2nd offense: Device is taken to the office and must be picked up by the student's parent/guardian.

3rd offense: Device is taken to the office, parent/guardian must pick it up, and the student can no longer have the device in school (the device can be checked into the office daily with administrative approval). A meeting with an administrator will be held to determine a plan for cell phone storage during the school day.

Progressive disciplinary action will be taken for each violation following the 3rd offense. Any student refusing to turn over a device or becoming disrespectful/defiant with a staff member requesting a device to be turned over will result in further disciplinary action including but not limited to removal from class.

District Personal Electronic Device Alignment:

School Site	Elementary	Middle School	High School
Personal Device Privileges	No Personal Device Privileges	No Personal Device Privileges	Lunch and Passing Time Personal Device Privileges

The faculty, staff, and students of SRRMS maintain a reasonable expectation of privacy while at school, on campus, and at school-related activities and events. Explicit permission must be obtained prior to recording others. A student identified as improperly posting to social media or using a device to take or transmit unrequested or unwanted images or recordings may face an immediate suspension, loss of privileges, or may be recommended for expulsion. Laser pointers are prohibited from school.

Closed Campus

The Sauk Rapids-Rice Board of Education has declared the campus of Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School to be a closed campus. All individuals, including students, entering the building during school hours must use Door 1. All doors to the middle school will be locked during the school day. Students are required to be in attendance for the entire day.

Lunch is provided at the middle school, and students are required to eat on campus unless the school releases a student in accordance with school rules and/or school-sponsored activities. Unexcused absences during the lunch period will be handled according to the SRR Code of Conduct. Students leaving during lunch without permission will be considered truant.

Students are not to order food from off-site vendors during school hours to be delivered to school without prior approval of school personnel. This includes students and parents/guardians bringing in food from outside vendors during the school day.

Detention

Failure to attend without administrative approval may result in double detention being assigned or loss of other privileges.

Dress Guidelines

SRRMS dress expectations are intended to promote a positive learning environment. The purpose of a dress code is for students to be dressed appropriately so as not to disrupt the educational process. Headwear will be allowed as long as the student's face is visible. Staff reserves the right to ask students to remove headwear if it causes a disruption to learning and the educational process. Students who violate the dress guidelines will be asked to change. Students refusing to remedy the situation will be sent to the office and parents/guardians may be notified. Repeated infractions or failure to comply with administrators or staff members may result in further disciplinary action.

The following list is not comprehensive and any apparel deemed disruptive or inappropriate by administrative staff will not be allowed.

- Includes violent or disruptive language or images
- Includes images or language depicting/promoting gangs, tobacco, drugs, or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity),
- Includes the use of hate speech, profanity, sexual content, explicit images, or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class
- Exposes visible undergarments, bathing suits
- Obstructs the view of the face, masks (not medically related)
- Blankets, flags/capes, sunglasses, and costumes (or parts of costumes) can not be worn (animal ears/horns/tails/wings).
- Painted faces or disguises are not allowed
- Shoes must be worn at all times

An organized, school sponsored, student group may recommend a form of dress for students considered appropriate for a specific event and make such recommendation to administration for approval. Wearing hats and hoods is a privilege. Students who choose to wear hats or hoods should wear them in such a fashion that their face is easily visible. Hats are subject to the same guidelines as all other clothing. If a staff member requests the removal of a hat or hood, students must comply. Staff members may restrict the wearing of hats and/or hoods in their courses or classrooms. A hat may also be confiscated if it is a distraction to the class or school environment.

It is customary and respectful to remove all hats and hoods during the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem.

The content of this section shall not infringe on an individual's right to dress in accordance with sincerely held religious observance and practice.

e-Learning Days (Weather Related)

e-Learning days will be utilized during the 2023-2024 school year after the first (1st) full day cancellation. The second (2nd) through sixth (6th) full day cancellations will be replaced with e-Learning days. If full day cancellations continue beyond the sixth (6th) full day, the subsequent days will be made up in person. When an e-Learning day occurs, students and parents/guardians will be informed that the day is an e-Learning day via the district's notification

system, Schoology, email and/or social media. Attendance will be tracked by completion of assigned activities. Students will be provided adequate time to complete the work including time after returning to school if needed.

Flowers/Balloons

Due to serious allergic risks to students and staff the main office will not accept delivery of or keep flowers/balloons in the office for students. Under no circumstances are latex balloons to be brought into the building.

Food and Beverage

Breakfast: Breakfast is available to all students at no charge. Students may choose to eat their breakfast in the designated breakfast area or put it into their backpack to be eaten later. Students must pick up breakfast before 8:00 a.m.

Lunch: Lunch is available to all students at no charge. Students may choose to access our school lunch program or bring a cold lunch from home.

Classroom/Lockers: Students are permitted to have only water in the classroom. Other items are allowed in lockers and in the lunchroom during lunch.

Harmful and Disruptive Items

Because of the danger and/or annoyance caused by certain items, they are not allowed in school or on school property. Disruptive items include, but are not limited to: laser pointers, water guns, rubber bands, whistles, noise makers, aerosol spray, fireworks, snowballs, wallet chains, hacky sacks, Bluetooth speakers, toys, and other similar devices/items which disrupt the orderly process of education. Disruptive activities are those that may be harmful, cause injury, or disrupt the orderly process of education.

Incident Reporting

The safety of all depends on STUDENTS. We are proud of our positive school climate at Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School and expect all students to follow our core values of School Engagement, Respect, and Responsibility (see SRR Matrix at the end of this document). If anyone brings anything to school that can affect the safety and welfare of anyone, or behaves in a way that is physically or emotionally damaging, the office needs to be informed immediately. Inappropriate items and/or behavior can be reported to the main office or a teacher through verbal or written (i.e., student email, student report form, note, etc.) communication. The reporting student's right to privacy will be respected as much as possible. The Bullying Prohibition Policy (514) can be found [here](#).

Lost and Found

The lost and found is located just outside the main office. At the end of each trimester, items not claimed will be donated to Salvation Army or Goodwill.

Lunch Expectations and Procedures

SRRMS staff understand lunch is an important time of day for our students. Many students enjoy the time to connect with peers while others prefer a quieter, more relaxed, environment. Because of these different preferences, students have a choice to participate in the traditional lunch setting that will remain in the SRRMS main cafeteria, or opt into an alternative setting for lunch that will be hosted in the SRRMS Community Room. The expectations, parameters, and guidelines for each space will be outlined below.

Commons Lunch:

Students who choose to eat in a traditional lunch environment will report to the west commons/cafeteria and be seated at the table of their choice (unless assigned). Students will then be released to get their lunch and return to the same table. When a table is finished eating lunch, students should wait to be dismissed by staff. Once dismissed, students may empty their trays. Students will return to the same table, check their area for cleanliness (pick up all garbage and clean the table). Students may then visit with friends at that table until time for dismissal. Cell phones, personal electronic communication devices, and iPads will not be allowed at the cafeteria lunch and should be placed in a locker before coming to lunch. If an iPad is brought to cafeteria lunch, the student will be asked to put it in their locker. Cell phones and personal electronic communication devices will be taken, in

accordance with the SRRMS cell phone violation procedures. The voice level volume in this area will be expected to be at a normal conversation level.

Students in grades six (6) and seven (7) may have an opportunity to participate in a supervised activity in the gym, outside, or hallways for approximately the last ten (10) minutes of the lunch shift. Students who wish to participate will need to transition with staff at the designated time and will be expected to stay in that space until dismissal. Those who choose not to participate are expected to visit with friends at their table until dismissed. Students who do not transition with the staff member at the designated time will not be able to take part in the activity and will be expected to remain at tables in the cafeteria. *Note: Due to limited gym space for 8th grade, alternative activities may be offered, and the activity time may not always be accessible.*

Community Room Lunch:

Students who wish to participate in the community room lunch will need to sign up to attend through Google. Students will be taught how to request access as a part of the back-to-school iPad Jumpstart program. Approximately 60 students per grade level will be allowed to access this lunch each day. The window for requests will open each morning at approximately 7:45 a.m. and close approximately 10:00 a.m. Students who are participating in community room lunch will be asked to go directly to the lunch line (do not enter the cafeteria), get their lunch and walk to the community room. While in the community room, students are able to access their iPads and visit with friends. This space is intended to be a low-key lunch space; therefore, voice levels will be expected to be at a two (2) or lower. At the end of this lunch shift, students will dump trays at the community room dump station and be dismissed. *Note: Students who do not follow PATH expectations for this space may lose the privilege to attend.*

Room 403:

Room 403 will serve as a lunch detention and behavior intervention space. Students who are sent or assigned to lunch detention may be asked to complete a behavior reflection sheet and/or process with staff. This is designed to assist the student with positive decision making and SRR directed choices. After processing with staff, students should remain quiet and work on assignments or read a book. Students assigned lunch detention should bring schoolwork and/or a book to read.

Working Lunch:

Students who are on academic contracts may be assigned a working lunch. This will take place in room 403. Students who are assigned to this area are expected to arrive with homework, missing assignments, extra credit, etc. If the student does not have work to do (and can demonstrate such on Skyward), they are expected to read a book of choice. Students will be assigned to this space in accordance with their academic contract.

Media Center

The media center is a place where students can access and use information that helps meet curriculum expectations at SRRMS. Students may visit the media center during Storm Time and/or when a teacher gives special permission throughout the day. To check out materials from the media center, students will use their assigned lunch code. If a student has overdue materials, they will not be allowed to check out new items. Students who are not on task will be asked to leave the media center. Food, beverages, and gum are prohibited.

Morning Arrival

STUDENTS WHO DO NOT RIDE A SCHOOL BUS ARE TO ARRIVE AT SCHOOL NO EARLIER THAN 7:35 a.m.

Although we provide a safe, supervised space for students who arrive at 7:35 a.m., we have no way to provide for students who arrive earlier. Students wishing to meet with a teacher for extra help should have a pass from that teacher. Once students have arrived, they may not leave school grounds for any reason unless they have a pass from the office. Students are not allowed in the swamp adjacent to the school during the school day unless they are supervised. Students are to stay off neighboring private property.

Motorized Vehicles

Vehicles such as snowmobiles and motorized bicycles are not allowed on school property. These machines create a safety hazard for other students.

Passes/Halls

A positive school climate is an important goal at Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School. Therefore, we ask that student behavior in the hall reflects a concern for common courtesy, safety, and a clean, pleasant environment. Students are expected to demonstrate behavior that aligns with our core values of School Engagement, Respect, and Responsibility. These are clearly defined in our Matrix, which is included at the end of this document. Inappropriate behavior in the hallway may result in disciplinary action.

During class time, students are not to be in the hallways without a pass. Passes may be issued by teachers, paraprofessionals, and the office staff. If you wish to see a teacher during their prep or duty period, you must arrange this in advance. Anytime a student has a pass to be out of class, the student must have the teacher's permission to miss the class before the pass is valid. If the student does not get permission to be absent, that student is considered unexcused from class for the period of time missed.

Public Displays of Affection

Students are expected to maintain and project a positive image including appropriate physical contact. School is not the place for a public display of affection. Behaviors in question could include, but are not limited to: kissing, inappropriate touching, laying across partner and arms around partner. If the behavior is in question or makes others uncomfortable, the student(s) will be asked to stop and/or refrain from the behavior. If it continues, the student(s) will be referred to administration and the SRR Code of Conduct will be followed.

School Property

iPads

iPads are the property of the school district and students are expected to follow the guidelines outlined in the Technology Use Agreement. The agreement explains student responsibilities, parent/guardian expectations, terms of device loan, general care instructions, fees, security and theft prevention, and issues related to damage, theft, and repair. Please consult the Device and Network Agreement for more information.

Lockers

Student lockers are the property of the school. They are provided for student use by the school and are subject to periodic inspections for cleanliness, suspicion of stolen property, or the potential for containing items deemed potentially harmful to students, the school building, or unlawfully obtained. Students are responsible for the care and upkeep of school lockers and will be personally responsible for any repairs or damage to assigned lockers. Lockers should be used to keep textbooks, lunch, school materials, coats, et cetera. Students should not keep money or valuables in their lockers (turn valuables/money into the office for safe keeping). Do not give your locker combination to any other student.

Locker Rooms

All students in a physical education class or in a current athletic activity will be issued a gym locker and school owned lock. It will be the responsibility of students to use and care for their lockers and locks. The use of electronic devices is prohibited in all locker room spaces. The locker room area is not supervised unless students are in attendance for a scheduled class or activity. Please do not leave valuables in gym lockers. Students are responsible for the contents of their locker and are subject to the same guidelines as school lockers listed above. Students are not to be in the locker rooms unless they are participating in a physical education class or an athletic activity. Athletic locker rooms will not be accessible during the school day.

Textbooks

Textbooks are issued to students free of charge. Students are expected to take care of textbooks and cover them whenever possible. Students issued school property will be financially responsible for the property and are expected to return it in the same approximate condition as it was given.

Telephone Calls/Messages

Parents/Guardians calling the school to leave messages for their child should give their message to the school administrative assistant to be relayed to the student at a convenient time. Students will not be called to the

telephone except in an emergency. Students are allowed to use their cell phones during passing time, lunch time, and before and after school.

Storm After School

Storm After School (SAS) is a program for students of Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School. SAS provides a supervised environment for students who are unable to go home or are not involved in another after school activity. This program is open from 3:05 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. and is held in the community room. Students who wish to attend must be registered. To complete the registration materials online click [here](#).

STORM Blast

STORM Blasts are a positive aspect of our school environment. Students must be in good standing both academically and behaviorally to have an opportunity to attend. All school policies and rules are enforced and infractions are dealt with according to the rules of the school. Students will not be allowed to leave without prior approval or a parent/guardian checking into the main office. Once a student leaves the activity, they may not return. STORM Blasts are held throughout the school year.

STORM Blasts are from 3:05 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Students will enter the event immediately after school dismissal. Students must be picked up no later than 5:30 p.m. Students not picked up by 5:30 p.m. risk losing the privilege of attending future STORM Blasts during the school year.

If a student is suspended from attending a STORM Blast, but attends anyway (is on school property) they may be charged with trespassing and suspended from all STORM Blasts for the remainder of the year. Students must have identification on them during the event (student ID or a special pass from the office). Students refusing to identify themselves to chaperones will be subject to disciplinary procedures.

Visitors

Visitors during school hours with legitimate business are expected to enter Door 1 and register in the main office with a valid ID or driver's license. When done, visitors must sign out and exit from the main office. SRRMS does not allow student visitors from other schools or student shadowing. ISD 47 reserves the right to deny any person access to district buildings or property for just cause.

CODE OF CONDUCT/STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR

Code of Conduct Statement

In order to support our school climate initiatives, Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools use evidence-based strategies to support positive student development. Some of these strategies include Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Social Emotional Learning Competencies (SEL), Conscious Discipline, and Restorative Practices.

The Code of Conduct is a guideline for standards to student behavior. It outlines student rights, responsibilities, and opportunities at school and allows schools to build specific guidelines, expectations, and supports for all students. The Code of Conduct provides definitions and levels of behavior, intervention and response. There are five (5) levels of behaviors, from minor infractions handled in the classroom, to major infractions handled by administration.

When a student is in violation of the SRR Code of Conduct, a teacher will notify the office requesting support in the classroom. The teacher shall write up a Skyward behavior referral and communicate with the student that they received said referral. When a call is made to the office:

- Support staff will go to the classroom to process with the student. If staff believe the student can return to class successfully, they will bring the student back to class. If the student is unable to return to/stay in class, they will be escorted to a student support location until the end of class (or longer). Which may include the following school day. An administrator or designee shall communicate the outcome of the situation with parent/guardian of the student removed from class. Administration may request a parent/guardian meeting to discuss student behavior and develop a plan for the student to successfully return to school/class.

SRRMS Staff and Administration firmly believes that students learn best in class with their teachers and peers. Therefore, non-exclusionary discipline and supports will be implemented prior to removing a student from the classroom.

Nothing in this section precludes removal of students from class and/or school for serious offenses in accordance with the Pupil Fair Dismissal Law of 1974.

To view the Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools Code of Conduct in its entirety, please click [here](#).

Bus Expectations

Transportation by school bus is a privilege for eligible students, not a right. A student's eligibility to ride a school bus may be revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct policies, or for violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus. Students are expected to follow the same behavior guidelines and standards while riding school buses as are expected on school property or at school activities, functions, or events. All school rules are in effect while a student is riding the bus or at the bus stop. When using school transportation, students are required to complete the ride to their building of attendance (a.m.) or to the assigned home destination bus stop (p.m.). In addition, when leaving the middle school, students are required to ride their assigned bus to the high school. If you wish to be a guest rider on a bus other than your own, and/or get off at a stop other than your own, a parent /guardian must contact the transportation department 320-258-1995 to obtain permission.

Transportation supplied by the school is a privilege and may be refused to anyone causing a disturbance on the bus. (See: [District Policy 707 - Transportation of Public School Students](#) on the district website.) All district policies and the SRR Code of Conduct apply while on district transportation.

Students are not allowed to reenter the loading area after school if they have left school district property. Running behind the bus, off the sidewalk alongside the bus, reaching to strike the side of a bus, or moving into the path of a bus is a willful entry into the school bus "DANGER ZONE."

If you have concerns regarding violations and/or safety at a bus stop or on board a bus, please call the transportation department at 320-258-1995.

PBIS/Core Values

Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School is a PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports) school. PBIS refers to a school-wide data driven system. We make it a point to teach behavioral expectations in the same manner as we would math or reading. We do not expect that students automatically know how to behave in certain situations or environments. There are systems in place to encourage positive behavior and reteach expected behaviors to struggling students. At Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School it is our goal to engage all students and families in a positive educational experience. We encourage staff and students to exemplify SRR Pride through our core values of School Engagement, Respect, and Responsibility. (See Appendix for complete SRR Matrix)

Student Engagement – Respect – Responsibility

At Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School, it is our goal to engage all students and families in a positive educational experience. We encourage staff and students to exemplify SRR Pride through our core values of School Engagement, Respect, and Responsibility. (See Appendix for complete SRR Matrix)

Tennessee

Minnesota Statute 13.04 requires that school districts provide the following warning or notice to parents/guardians and students. They should be advised that:

1. Students attending school in the school district, or their parents/guardians, will be asked to supply information to school personnel in the ordinary course of school business. This may include information requests such as homework assignments or tests, questions asked of students during classroom discussions or other classroom activities, information requested of students or parents/guardians relating to a student's participation in school-related athletic or extra-curricular activities, or questions asked of students or

- parents/guardians during a scheduled or an informal conference with a teacher or administrator, either by telephone or in person, relating to the student's behavior or academic performance.
2. The information will be collected by the district in order to evaluate the student's current level of performance with respect to educational programs. To maintain discipline within the school, and to determine the student's needs and preferences relating to the education program. The education program includes athletic or extra-curricular activities, for purposes of this notice.
 3. Students or parents/guardians are not required by any law or regulation to supply the information requested. However, the school district expects that students will participate fully in their educational program by completing homework assignments and tests, participating in classroom discussions and activities, and that students and parents/guardians will participate fully by providing information relating to academic performance, athletic or extra-curricular activities, or behavior. The consequences for refusing to supply the information requested will relate to the need for the request, and may result in reduced grades, ineligibility to participate in athletic or extra-curricular activities, or, in the case of a school district employee's investigation into the student's behavior, may result in action being taken without complete information.
 4. Information collected as described in this notice will be provided to school district personnel or others having a legitimate educational interest in obtaining access to the data, and to state and federal authorities having statutory rights of access to the data.

COMMUNICATION

Conferences

Parent/Guardian student/teacher conferences will be held three (3) times during the school year, one (1) time each trimester. If parents/guardians have a need to meet with a teacher outside of regular conference time, please contact the teacher to arrange the meeting. Families are encouraged to check their student's academic progress, lunch account, attendance and discipline records using Schoology and Skyward found on the district website (www.isd47.org).

Line of Communication

Parents/Guardians with questions or concerns are encouraged to communicate directly with their student's teachers. If the questions or concerns have not been resolved after contact with the teacher, notify the building principal or assistant principal.

Parent/Guardian Messages for Students

Good parent/student communication is essential! It is sometimes necessary to get messages to students at school. In order to serve both parents/guardians and students, and make this a manageable service, the following procedure will be in effect:

- Students will not be called out of class or given a direct message unless it is an emergency
- All messages called in for students will be noted. Students will be given messages during their lunches or during the end-of-day announcements
- All messages must be received by 1:30 p.m. to use this service
- Note: Because cell phones are not allowed outside of the acceptable times of use (morning arrival until 8:00 a.m. bell and after school beginning at 3:05 p.m.), parents/guardians are asked to contact the main office rather than text or message their student directly

Printed/Posted Materials

Any written material produced, posted, circulated or otherwise distributed on school property must have administrative approval prior to posting/circulation. Once posted, all posted materials should have a stamp that states that express authorization has been given by the main office. Postings are to be hung only in the designated areas and must be removed immediately after the event is over.

Report Cards

Student progress is reported by issuing report cards at the end of each trimester and through parent/teacher conferences. Parents/Guardians can also access student grade reports via the internet at [ISD 47 Student Skyward](#). Additional information can be obtained from the main office administrative assistant. In addition, teachers may send out commendation reports, consult with parents/guardians by telephone or email, and/or arrange for conferences as necessary. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to call or email a teacher if there is a concern.

School Announcements

Sauk Rapids–Rice Middle School has a variety of opportunities for student involvement. Daily announcements are made over the public address system before, during, and after the school day. In addition, parents/guardians and students will receive announcements through Schoology. Important information is updated on the Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School website and sent in weekly email communications to families.

School Closings / Emergencies

In the event of an emergency school closing, due to inclement weather, mechanical malfunction, disaster, potential disaster alert, or similar, students and parents/guardians should first check the school website at www.isd47.org. This website will have the most current information available posted.

Additional information may be obtained through the following radio stations and websites:

WCCO WVAL WWJO KNSI WJON WCCO.COM KARE11.COM KSTP.COM FOX9NEWS.COM

Decisions on school-related events will also be broadcast at a similar time and during closing/late start broadcasts (i.e., extracurriculars, community education and early childhood, recreation, KidStop, Kids Club et cetera).

School Telephones

With a pass/permission from a staff member, students may use personal devices or office telephones to contact a parent or guardian. Without teacher or staff permission, students are prohibited from using their cell phones or other personal electronic communication devices during the instructional school day (8:00 a.m.–3:05 p.m.) and while participating in a field trip.

DISTRICT POLICIES

District Policies

Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools district policies can be found at: <https://www.isd47.org/about/district-policies>

Alcohol/Drugs/Tobacco Free

In compliance with the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug Free Schools and Community Act of 1986 as amended 1989 (P.L.101226), the district has made a commitment to maintain an alcohol/drug-free workplace. A student shall not: use a beverage containing alcohol (including attending school under the influence); use tobacco, tobacco-related devices, or electronic cigarettes; or use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell or give away marijuana or any substance defined by law as a drug (see medication policy for legally prescribed medications). Electronic cigarette means any oral device that provides a vapor of liquid nicotine, lobelia, and/or other similar substance, and the use or inhalation of which simulates smoking. The term shall include any such devices, whether they are manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, or under another product name or descriptor.

Students in violation of this rule, in accordance with the Code of Conduct, will be immediately suspended, will be expected to meet and develop a remediation program with the chemical coordinator and SIRG team and may be recommended for expulsion.

ISD 47 is tobacco and smoke free. Students found smoking or using tobacco will be suspended and may be referred for treatment. All tobacco products visible to, or located by staff will be confiscated and destroyed. Possession of tobacco by a person under the age of 21 is a petty misdemeanor.

Background Checks (404)

Safety is a priority for Sauk Rapids-Rice Schools. In accordance with Minnesota State Statute 123B.03 Subd.1e, and District Policy 404, this will serve as notice that Sauk Rapids-Rice Schools require criminal background checks of

applicants who receive an offer of employment with the district. The district also requires background checks of all volunteers, and may require background checks for independent contractors, and student employees at its discretion. The standard lead time required to complete the volunteer background check process is two (2) weeks.

To view District Policy 404, Employment Background Checks, please click [here](#).

Bullying Prohibition (514)

A safe and civil environment is needed for students to learn and attain high academic standards and to promote healthy human relationships. Bullying, like other violent or disruptive behavior, is conduct that interferes with students' ability to learn and teachers' ability to educate students in a safe environment. The school district cannot monitor the activities of students at all times and eliminate all incidents of bullying between students, particularly when students are not under the direct supervision of school personnel. However, to the extent such conduct affects the educational environment of the school district and the rights and welfare of its students and is within the control of the district in its normal operations, it is the school district's intent to prevent bullying and to take action to investigate, respond to, and to remediate and discipline those acts of bullying which have not been successfully prevented. The purpose of this policy is to assist the district in its goal of preventing and responding to acts of bullying, intimidation, violence, reprisal, retaliation and other similar disruptive and detrimental behavior. Refer to the Sauk Rapids-Rice School District Code of Conduct for more information on student rights and responsibilities.

To view District Policy 514, Bullying Prohibition, please click [here](#).

Culture of Respect and Acceptance

Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools remains committed to preparing all learners for post-secondary success, creating a culture of academic achievement, and fostering an informed public through increased communication and outreach. Through successful partnerships and continued collaboration, we work to ensure that every child is successful. In addition to the goals mentioned above, ISD 47 remains committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from harassment and violence as evidenced by District Policy 413. In particular, district officials acknowledge its obligation under the Minnesota Human Rights Act to prevent harassment on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, including gender identity or expression, or disability.

To accomplish our goals and to meet the commitment of District Policy 413 will require the attention of our students, parents/guardians and district staff, working together to create welcoming and respectful environments for all members of the school district community. The district affirms that it does not tolerate acts of harassment and will promptly respond to concerns or complaints.

Any student or staff member who believes they have been subjected to harassment is encouraged to report the harassment to the district through a building administrator or through the school district's Human Rights Officer. Complaints of harassment will be investigated and appropriate corrective action will be taken in response to any findings of harassment in violation of District Policy. Action by the school district will be targeted to stop the harassment and to prevent it from recurring. Refer to the Sauk Rapids-Rice School District Code of Conduct for more information on student rights and responsibilities.

Harassment and Violence (413)

The policy of the school district is to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from all harassment and violence on the basis of Protected Class. The school district prohibits any form of harassment or violence on the basis of Protected Class, which includes but is not limited to all academic, extra-curricular and school-sponsored activities.

The school district will act to investigate all complaints, either formal or informal, verbal or written, of harassment or violence based on a person's Protected Class, and to discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel who is found to have violated this policy. Refer to the Sauk Rapids-Rice School District Code of Conduct for more information on student rights and responsibilities.

To view District Policy 413, Harassment and Violence, please click [here](#).

Mandated Reporting (414)

As professionals in the school setting, it is our legal responsibility to ensure the safety of all children. The state dictates that school professionals are mandated reporters of physical or sexual abuse and neglect. According to Minnesota Statute 626.556 "... it is the policy of this state to require the reporting of neglect, physical or sexual abuse of children in the home, school, and community settings; to provide for the voluntary reporting of abuse or neglect of children; to require a family assessment, when appropriate, as the preferred response to reports not alleging substantial child endangerment; to require an investigation when the report alleges substantial child endangerment; and to provide protective, family support, and family preservation services when needed in appropriate cases."

Additionally, persons who are mandated to report are "a professional or professional's delegate who is engaged in the practice of the healing arts, social services, hospital administration, psychological or psychiatric treatment, child care, education, correctional supervision, probation and correctional services, or law enforcement."

To view District Policy 414, Mandated Reporting Policy, please click [here](#).

Weapons (501)

A weapon means any object, device, or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or which may be used to inflict self-injury, including but not limited to: any firearm (whether loaded or unloaded); air guns; pellet guns; BB guns; all knives/blades; clubs; metal knuckles; nun chucks; throwing stars; explosives; fireworks; mace and other propellants; stun guns/tasers; ammunition; poisons; chains; arrows; and objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon.

The school district will follow the Code of Conduct in regard to the possession, use, or distribution of weapons by students. Consequently, the minimum consequence for students possessing, using, or distributing weapons shall include:

1. Immediate out-of-school suspension, and
2. Confiscation of the weapon, and
3. Immediate notification of police, and
4. Parent/guardian notification, and
5. Review of incident by the site weapons assessment team, and
6. Recommendation to the superintendent of possible dismissal for a period of time not to exceed one year.

To view District Policy 501, School Weapons Policy, please click [here](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Directory Information (Public Data)

Notice is hereby given that Independent ISD 47, pursuant to the U.S. General Education Provisions Act and Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, declares the following as directory information and that information relating to students may be made public if the information is in any of the following categories:

- Student's name, address, and telephone listing
- Date and place of birth
- Gender
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Dates of attendance
- Grade levels completed
- Degrees and awards received
- The most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by a student
- Photos in the normal course of school activities

Directory information does not include identifying data that references religion, race, color, social position, or nationality. Any parent/guardian of any student in the district may notify the district of their desire that some or none of the above information is to be released without their consent by contacting the building principal.

Every parent/guardian of a SRRMS student has the opportunity to opt out of the publishing of their student's name and/or photographs on the district website, social media, district newsletters, or any other type of publicized information. This should be done in writing using the [Opt Out form](#) or by calling the middle school office 320-253-4700.

Educational Benefits

Families may apply for Educational Benefits anytime during the school year. Educational Benefits applications are distributed to all families in the district prior to the student's first day of classes. In addition, applications are available at the district office and food service office between 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, as well as [online](#).

Families can help support all students by completing the Educational Benefits Form.

Educational Benefits forms are distributed to all families in the district prior to the student's first day of classes and families may apply anytime during the school year. In addition, applications are available at the district office and food service office between 8:00 a.m.– 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, as well as [online](#).

If you haven't filled out the Educational Benefits Form yet, you can make a tremendous difference for all SRR students by doing so right away.

Educational Benefits Form provides free or reduced cost activity fees for students of families that qualify. Additionally, by filling out this form each year, families may help provide additional funding and resources to benefit all Sauk Rapids-Rice students in other ways.

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Educational Benefit Form is used to determine the amount of state and federal funding the district receives to

- The Educational Benefits Form must be completed each school year.
- The Educational Benefits form does provide free or reduced cost for activities for families that qualify.
- It is important for all families to fill out the form as it can also provide services for all students including, but not limited to
 - student access to counselors and social workers.
 - support for students who need academic assistance.
 - support for school wide or targeted initiatives.
 - determine what class in which the district's extracurricular activities teams compete.

The form can be completed online or by paper but must be done no later than December 15 each year.

Fundraisers

Prior to ordering any item or agreeing to sell or distribute any item in school or representing the school, approval must be granted by either the principal or the activities director prior to the fundraising. Only Sauk Rapids-Rice-affiliated fundraisers are allowed to be sold/advertised in the building. All fundraisers must be in compliance with the [District Policy 511 – Student Fundraising](#).

Insurance for Students

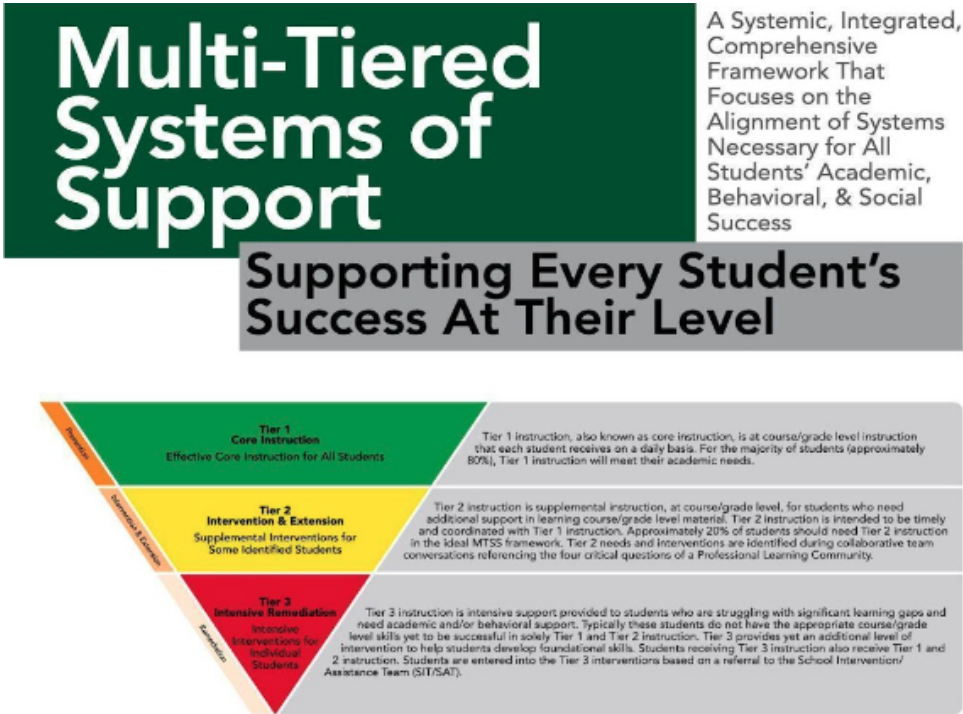
Accident plans are available to students attending Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools. One is related to dental protection and the other is medical protection in case of accidental injuries. These programs are in no way mandatory; it is up to each parent/guardian to decide the merit of such a plan. The school district does not provide insurance coverage for students. Insurance coverage is the responsibility of the parent/guardian. More information can be found [here](#).

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) is a framework that focuses on high-quality instruction and intervention

matched to individual student needs through monitoring student progress and using the student's progress data for educational planning. The primary focus of the MTSS Framework is to ensure all students succeed and to prevent academic failure.

Tier 1 focuses on core instruction provided for all students in the regular education setting. Students who are approaching grade-level mastery with the intent to bridge a clearly identified gap receive Tier 2 services. Tier 2 services provide supplemental instruction (academic and behavioral) and extensions, which will be provided during WIN time. Tier 3 services provide supplemental intensive instruction tailored to the needs of individual students who have not shown growth in Tiers 1 and 2.



There are four critical components that guide the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) framework in Sauk Rapids-Rice Schools. These components are:

MTSS Component	Integrated System
Critical Responsibility All stakeholders believe they are responsible for ensuring that each student learns at a high level	MTSS Teams <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher Collaborative School Intervention (SIT) District
Concentrated Instruction Curriculum is developed based on identified essential learning. Personalized learning paths are developed in order for each student to attain a high level of mastery	Standards, Benchmarking, & Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School-Wide Universal Screening Grade-Level Essential Standards Common Assessments
Convergent Assessment The systemic use of data to determine each student's learning needs and monitor the effectiveness of instruction in meeting those needs	Data-Based Decision Making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Problem Solving Process Data Inquiry Cycle Continuous Improvement Process
Certain Access There is an articulated process that guarantees each student the support and time they need to learn at high levels	Tiered Entry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tier One: Core Instruction Tier Two: Interventions Tier Three: Interventions

Pledge of Allegiance

Students in this school district shall recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America one or more times each week. The recitation shall be conducted:

A. By each individual classroom teacher or the teacher's surrogate; or

- B. Over a school intercom system by a person designated by the school principal or other person having administrative control over the school.

Anyone who does not wish to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance for any personal reasons may elect not to do so. Students and school personnel must respect another person's right to make that choice. Students will be instructed in the proper etiquette toward, correct display of, and respect for the flag, and in patriotic exercises.

Student Records

Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools regulations on student information kept by the school complies with the federal and state laws guaranteeing parents/guardians the right to examine and challenge the contents of their children's records.

Others having access to student records include:

1. School staff having a legitimate educational interest in the student; another school district, college or educational institution in which the student may enroll, and
2. The court system when the records are requested by judicial subpoena.

Other third parties may have access to record only with written permission of the student, parent, or legal guardian. Before records other than directory information (i.e., name and address) are sent to any other person, agency or institution, written consent is required from parents/guardians or eligible students.

A law enforcement agency shall notify the principal or the superintendent or their designee of a juvenile's school of an incident occurring within the agency's jurisdiction if the agency has probable cause to believe that the juvenile has committed an offense that would be a crime if committed as an adult.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Crisis Management/Situational Awareness

The state of Minnesota requires schools to perform at least eleven (11) situational awareness drills. In partnership with local emergency responders, the district will perform five (5) fire drills, five (5) community/active threat drills, one (1) severe weather drill per school year. Drills will be practiced with and without notification of staff and students so that unnecessary panic or anxiety does not accompany these drills. All students and staff must follow the appropriate procedures each time the drill is practiced. To maintain safety and calm, students are not to use cell phones during these important drills.

Fire

Upon hearing the fire alarm, assess and react to the information collected from your surroundings (i.e. smoke, heat, flow of other students and staff, sounds, etc.). Find the best route to safety based on the information you've collected. Your exit may change and the safest is not always the closest. Ensure you are at a safe distance from danger.

*Unnecessarily setting off a fire alarm is considered a terroristic threat. Students will be suspended and recommended for expulsion as well as being subject to appropriate legal penalties and fines.

Shelter in Place

Responses to a community threat (outside our building) will be to shelter in place. An announcement will be made over the PA to alert the entire building of the shelter in place. The entire building will stay in shelter in place until an all clear announcement is made.

During this time, teachers will continue with instruction inside of their classrooms. If a student needs to leave the classroom, staff will contact the main office (ext. 1710) for an escort. During shelter in place, students will not pass to the next period unless directed to do so by staff.

Severe Weather

Upon hearing the severe weather warning to take shelter, all staff and students are asked to move to their designated safe areas, be seated, remain calm, and avoid doors, door swing-ways, and windows. When the threat has passed, an announcement will be made to direct students and staff back to their classrooms.

Active Threat

An active threat is defined as any incident which by its deliberate nature creates an immediate threat or presents an imminent danger to our school. Upon learning of an active threat, assess and react to information given.

- IF threat is observed, call 911 as soon as you can safely do so (landline or cell); inform a staff member
- Run: get away from danger when it's safe to do so
- Hide: shelter in place; could include barricading or blocking entrances
- Fight Back: As a last resort, interrupt the situation and make it difficult or impossible for someone to engage in threatening behavior

Searches

In order to promote safety for all, the principal or their designee have the authority to conduct a search. The scope of a search may include a student's person and areas over which they have control, including but not being limited to: cell phones; computer files; purses; backpacks; any locker assigned to the student by the school; and the student's vehicle. The administrator must have reasonable cause to believe that, under the circumstances, the student may have concealed evidence of misconduct in areas under their control. This includes measures taken to keep the school free of chemicals/drugs. Therefore, at times, designated by administration, searches will be conducted to determine the presence of any chemicals/drugs or related paraphernalia. These searches may be conducted on all school property and may utilize law enforcement resources including K-9's (dogs).

[District Policy 502 – Search of Students can be found in its entirety here.](#)

Suicide Prevention

If you need suicide or mental health crisis support, or are worried about someone else, please call or text 988 or visit the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline chat to connect with a trained crisis specialist

- There are three ways you can connect to the Lifeline: calls, text, and online chats.
- You can connect anytime 24/7, 365 days a year.
- Support is provided by a trained crisis specialist and is free and confidential

Four County Crisis Response Team is available 24 hours a day

- Serves adults, youth and children in
 - Benton County 320-253-5555 or 1-800-635-8008
 - Stearns County 320-253-5555 or 1-800-635-8008
 - Sherburne County 320-253-5555 or 1-800-635-8008
 - Wright County 320-253-5555 or 1-800-635-8008

The Morrison County Crisis Response Team serves adults, youth and children and is available 24 hours a day at 1-800-462-5525

Trespass Notice

Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools reserves the right to deny any person access to the district's buildings or property for just cause. Just cause may include but is not limited to threatening or disruptive behavior, improper or illegal behavior, or any activity by a person which materially and/or substantially interferes with district programs, classes, activities, or other events. Upon determination by school district authorities that a person's behavior represents a danger or a serious disruption, such a trespass notice can be served on that person limiting access to district buildings and grounds for a specific period of time. Notification of such trespass notice will be given to local law enforcement authorities. If the person served the trespass notice fails to leave and stay away, police will be called and trespass charges will be filed. Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School does not allow student visitors or student shadowing. Any person who is not a student or staff member of SRRMS will be asked to leave.

SERVICES

Counseling and Guidance Services

The guidance counselors help students with academic concerns, personal concerns, and testing/interpreting test results. The counselors work closely with both staff and students. Students are asked to make appointments during non-scheduled time (before/after school, lunch, passing times) to visit with their counselor.

Food Services

Parents/Guardians can access their child's menu choices or their family's account balance via the "Parents and Families" portal on the district website. To receive a username and password, call the main office, then visit mystudent.isd47.org.

One breakfast, a complete hot lunch and a supplemental milk are free for all students, effective for the 2023 – 2024 school year.

While all kindergarten through grade 12 students will be provided one free breakfast and complete lunch per day, second meals, adult meals, additional entrees, ala carte, and/or additional milk servings are not covered under the state funded meal program and will be charged to the family's food service account.

2023 – 2024 Meal Prices			
Breakfast		Lunch	
1 st Student Breakfast	Free	1 st Student Lunch	Free
Additional Student Breakfast	\$2.25	Additional Student Lunch	\$4.95
Milk	\$.50	Second Entree (i.e. slice of pizza only)	\$2.25
Adult Breakfast	\$2.25	Adult Lunch	\$4.95
Ala Carte - Priced as Marked			

*Note: These prices are subject to change and are not set by ISD 47.

Payments by cash or check can be made at the middle school. Payments can also be made in the food service office, the district office, or online through a student's Skyward Family Access Account. The link can be found at <https://www.isd47.org/portal/student-parent-tools>.

Households are made aware of their family account balance by the following methods:

- Families can check their student's meal account balance via [Skyward Family Access](#).
- Families can contact the office for account balances.
- The food service department will send an email, text or initiate a phone call to all parents/guardians advising them of the student meal account balance(s) when it falls below \$20.01
- A letter/invoice will be sent via US Post to the household requesting payment.

To view District Policy 534, School Meals Policy, please click [here](#).

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students receive healthy and nutritious meals through the school district's nutrition program and that school district employees, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. The policy of the school district is to provide meals to students in a respectful manner and to maintain the dignity of students by prohibiting lunch shaming or otherwise ostracizing the student. The policy seeks to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day and minimize identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for school meals as well as to maintain the financial integrity of the school nutrition program.

Health Services

A school health assistant is available when medical assistance is necessary. The health office is located down the hall from the main office. Health records and medication permission forms are kept on file in this office according to

Minnesota State and ISD 47 regulations. When a student needs medication during the school day, the "Physician's Order for Medication at School" and "Parent Request for School Personnel to Administer Medication" forms must be completed. These forms are in the school health office.

Over the counter medications (OTC) are considered a controlled substance in school and on school property. These are any medications purchased without a prescription such as aspirin or substitutes, nasal spray, cold medicine, etc. Over the counter medications are treated as prescription medication in school and require a prescription labeled bottle. If OTC medication must be taken, the prescription medication policy must be followed or students are subject to discipline procedures related to the drug policy.

Wearing face coverings (often called masks) that cover the nose and the mouth for the purpose of reducing the risk of infection and/or maintaining the health and wellbeing of the student or others is acceptable.

Accidents

All accidents, no matter how minor, must be reported to the health services office (nurse's office). An adult witness to the accident should complete an accident/injury report form at that time. The school does not provide accident insurance but does offer a for purchase policy if the student/parents so choose.

First aid is administered at school in case of minor injuries. When necessary, the nurse's office will contact a student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to discuss further arrangements. If a parent/guardian or emergency contact cannot be reached and medical care is necessary, appropriate measures will be taken. Families should be sure to list current physician information on the student's emergency card. In the event a student sees an accident on school grounds or in the building, or experiences an accident, they should report it at once to a teacher or principal. It is very important that accidents are reported as soon as possible.

Allergies

Because the following items may cause serious allergic reactions for some students, they are not allowed in the building.

- Latex balloons (Mylar balloons are allowed)
- Aerosol products such as deodorants and/or hairsprays, which use an aerosol propellant (hair coloring is permitted, but it must be applied prior to coming to school or boarding the school bus). Students are discouraged from using temporary hair color with the exception of school special events/days (i.e., Spirit Day).
- Animals may be allowed only for educational purposes and with previous permission from the middle school office.

Health Records

Health records are kept for each student according to Minnesota law.

Examples of information include:

- History of past illnesses and operations.
- Dates of immunizations.
- Results of vision and hearing screening.
- Results of professional examinations.

Illness at School

If a student becomes ill at school, they should notify a teacher first and then report to the nurse's office. When necessary, parents/guardians will be called to pick up their student from school. If parents/guardians are unavailable, an alternate emergency contact will be notified. Be sure forms are accurate and updated at least yearly to ensure the needs of your student are met. Students not checking in with the health office prior to leaving school because of an illness may be subject to disciplinary consequences.

Immunization Records

Per Minnesota State Statute 121A.15, record of immunizations is required upon enrollment. Parents/Guardians may indicate that immunizations are contrary to their conscientiously held beliefs. If you are a conscientious objector, a signed and notarized form is required.

Medication

The Sauk Rapids-Rice Board of Education recognizes that certain students require drugs or medication to treat physical or emotional conditions. It is expected that, whenever possible, treatment for these conditions will occur outside of the school setting. The purpose of this policy is to set forth requirements that must be met when there is a request for a student to receive drugs or medication during school hours.

Definitions:

Drug: The term drug as defined in 151.01 subd. 5 is a substance intended for external and/or internal use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease, and all substances and preparations other than food, intended to affect the structure or any function of the body.

Medicine: The terms medicine or medication means any remedial agent that has the property of curing, preventing, treating, or mitigating disease, or that is used for that purpose.

School Nurse: The term school nurse means a person who is currently registered and licensed as a registered nurse in Minnesota, certified as a Minnesota Public Health nurse and/or meets other requirements as established by Minnesota Rule 8700.9100 and the Sauk Rapids-Rice Board of Education and is licensed through the Minnesota Department of Education.

For the purpose of this policy, any further reference to medicine or medication includes drugs and refers to both prescriptions and over-the-counter preparations that must be legally prescribed in order for a nurse to administer. Legal prescribers are listed in Minnesota statute 151.01 Subd. 23.

In most cases, legally prescribed medication, which includes over-the-counter medication, may be administered at school when a parent/legal guardian of the student complies with the following:

- A. Provides the school with a completed physician's order and parent/guardian request for medications to be administered during school hours.
- B. Provides the medication in a prescription labeled container with student's name, medication name, dosage, amount, time interval, and prescriber.

The district reserves the right to reject medication requests. Some medications because of the type, route, complexity of administration, potential for dangerous side effects, the health condition, or developmental status of the student may impact the ability to safely accommodate the medication request or administration may be limited to the school nurse based on the nurse's availability. The school nurse is responsible for approving or denying medication requests. When a request cannot be accommodated, parents/guardians may choose to come to school to administer the medication to their child or may contact their physician to make alternate arrangements.

[The District Policy 516 – Student Medication can be found in its entirety here.](#)

School Resource Officer

Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools has partnered with the City of Sauk Rapids in providing a school resource officer for the entire district. During school hours, the officer is primarily located at the high school. Students are reminded that their behavior at school is subject to the laws of the State of Minnesota and the City of Sauk Rapids.

Student Advocacy Services

The guidance/counseling services seek to promote positive self-esteem for all students. A school counselor and/or social worker is available to all students and their families for the following services:

- Individual and/or group counseling for academic and/or social/emotional needs
- Home/School coordination
- Referral services
- Coordination with community services
- Crisis intervention

Communication between school and home is very important for students' well-being. Parents/Guardians may contact the school at any time.

Suicide Prevention

If you need suicide or mental health crisis support, or are worried about someone else, please call or text 988 or visit the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline chat to connect with a trained crisis specialist

- There are three ways you can connect to the Lifeline: calls, text, and online chats.
- You can connect anytime 24/7, 365 days a year.
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The Morrison County Crisis Response Team serves adults, youth and children and is available 24 hours a day at 1-800-462-5525

TECHNOLOGY

Technology in our Schools

The Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools creates a culture of excellence while providing innovative programming to address the changing learning strategies of today's learners and new outcomes for future competitiveness. Students, families and staff work collaboratively to ensure that students are well prepared for postsecondary and career experiences in what is a demanding and ever-changing environment.

Modern technology is inseparable from today's classroom environment, instruction, and learning. As a result, it is important that all students understand and respect SRRMS policies and expectations related to such technologies. By putting the needs of our students first, we have nurtured innovation throughout the district.

Student Technology

The district and Board of Education considers the financial realities of the future as well as the changing needs of each student. They also recognize the importance of providing the means to implement skills that demonstrate measurable academic and behavioral results. To that end, the Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools provides increased access and opportunity through technology for all students in grades 6-12.

After signing the Device and Network Agreement, all SRRMS students have individual access to laptop devices that are property of the school district and are expected to follow the guidelines outlined in that agreement. The agreement explains student responsibilities, parent/guardian expectations, terms of device loan, general care instructions, fees, security and theft prevention, and issues related to damage, theft, and repair. Please consult the Acceptable Use Agreement Handbook for more information.

The District's Device and Network Agreement Handbook can be found in its entirety at:

<http://www.isd47.org/technology>

Responsible Use/Digital Citizenship

The district is providing students and employees with access to the school district computer system, which includes internet access. The purpose of the system is more specific than providing students and employees with general access to the internet. The school district system has a limited educational purpose, which includes use of the system for classroom activities, educational research, and professional or career development activities. Users are expected to use internet access through the district system to further educational and personal goals consistent with the mission of the school district and school policies. Uses which might be acceptable on a user's private personal account on another system may not be acceptable on this limited-purpose network. Unacceptable use includes utilizing proxy servers or other avenues to bypass the district's internet filter.

The faculty, staff, and students of SRRMS maintain a reasonable expectation of privacy while at school, on campus, and at school-related activities and events. Explicit permission must be obtained prior to recording other individuals in our building. A student identified as improperly using any device to take or transmit unrequested or unwanted images or recordings may face an immediate suspension, loss of privileges, and may be recommended for expulsion.

Any use of electronic devices (including texting, voicemail, internet communication or posting) to threaten, harass, bully, or encourage similar behavior will be subject to the provisions of the (Code of Conduct) discipline policy and district policies on Bullying (514), Harassment (413), and Internet Acceptable Use Policy (524). Most of these uses of digital data are recorded and may be traced, thereby requiring confiscation of the device for evidence.

District Policies may be viewed online at

<https://www.isd47.org/about/district-policies>.

The use of the school district system and access to use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Depending on the nature and degree of the violation and the number of previous violations, unacceptable use of the school district system or the internet may result in one or more of the following consequences: suspension or cancellation of use or access privileges; payments for damages and repairs; discipline under other appropriate school district policies, including suspension, expulsion, exclusion, or termination of employment; or civil or criminal liability under other applicable laws.

[The District Policy 524 – Internet Acceptable Use can be found in its entirety here.](#)

Personal Electronic Devices

Use of cell phones and other personal electronic devices (earbuds, tablets, other wearables, etc) will not be permitted during the school day, from 8:10 a.m. to 3:05 p.m. Consequences for the improper use of electronic devices may include confiscation of the electronic device. Parents/Guardians may be notified and/or required to retrieve the electronic device. Continued misuse will also include more significant disciplinary consequences and longer confiscation.

Any use of electronic devices to plagiarize, copy, or otherwise cheat academically is strictly prohibited and consequences are addressed in the Academic Honesty section in this handbook.

Laser pointers are prohibited from school.

The faculty, staff, and students of SRRMS maintain a reasonable expectation of privacy while at school, on campus, and at school-related activities and events. Explicit permission must be obtained prior to recording other individuals in our building. A student identified as improperly using any device to take or transmit unrequested or unwanted images or recordings may face an immediate suspension, loss of privileges, and may be recommended for expulsion.

Social Media Guidelines

All students need to use common sense when posting online, texting, or using social media. Any posts that are related to school, harmful to students and/or staff, and/or cause disruption in school may be subject to school consequences.

Before posting, students should think about the following:

- Who will be able to see what I post?
- Will anyone be embarrassed or hurt by it?
- Am I proud of what I am posting?
- How would I feel if someone posted it about me?

Students who attend Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools have various rights and opportunities. Students also have responsibilities to teachers, other staff and fellow students. A safe and positive learning environment is essential. Knowing and complying with these expectations and procedures supports making Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School a positive place for all students.

Use of Online Resources

Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools is committed to providing a safe and positive digital learning experience for students and staff.

Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools uses online electronic resources (i.e. apps, services, and websites) to support a variety of instructional goals. These resources provide tools to transform and personalize the learning environment for all students.

These online electronic resources have limited access to student information which allows for the generation of and access to student accounts.

In compliance with federal educational guidelines and to assure that student data is not sold or compromised, all online electronic resources accessing student data must be approved for content quality and student data privacy guidelines.

A list of approved online electronic resources for Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools can be accessed here:

<https://www.isd47.org/technology>

TRANSPORTATION

Bus Transportation

Transportation by school bus is a privilege for eligible students, not a right. A student's eligibility to ride a school bus may be revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct policies, or for violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus. Students are expected to follow the same behavior guidelines and standards while riding school buses as are expected on school property or at school activities, functions, or events. All school rules are in effect while a student is riding the bus or at the bus stop. When using school transportation, students are required to complete the ride to the building of their attendance (a.m.) or to the assigned home destination bus stop (p.m.).

Extracurricular Transportation

All team or group members are expected to travel on-board the school-contracted transportation (i.e., bus, van, etc.) with the team or group, to and from contests, on trips where transportation is provided by the district. Under no circumstances should a student drive themselves or others to/from contests. The student may travel home from the event with their parent(s)/guardian(s) only if the parent/guardian requests this of the head coach or activities director in advance and signs the student out with the coaches upon leaving. Any alternate transportation to and from contests needs to be arranged ahead of time with the activities director.

For practices off-site, all students must provide a permission slip to drive or ride. Permission forms are available in the activities office.

Parent/Guardian Drop Off and Pick-Up

To provide a safe drop off and pick up zone in front of school, the direction of traffic is one-way as indicated by the painted arrows on the pavement. As you enter and exit, drive slowly with caution, as students walking to and from school will cross traffic lanes. Please remind your child to look before walking across traffic lanes. No vehicles, except buses, are allowed in the back of the school for student drop off or pick up.

In the morning, students are to be dropped off using the right lane only, which is the lane closest to the school building.

After school, students are to be picked up by the grade level at the door associated with their grade level (6th grade door 1, 7th grade door 5, 8th grade door 3). The outside lanes are to be used for drivers who are waiting in their vehicles to pick up a student. The middle lane is to be left open at all times to exit after picking up a student. NOTE: There are no left turns allowed into the pick-up zone from 1st Street between 2:45 p.m. and 3:15 p.m., we ask that vehicles travel to the east end of campus, turn and line up in the westbound lane to enter the safety zone. Various times of the year will bring an increase in the number of vehicles transporting students. Everyone must exercise patience.

Please keep these important safety issues in mind, and share this information with others who may be transporting your child.

APPENDIX

Calendar - ISD47 2023-2024

Daily Schedule

Schoology/Skyward Information

SRRMS Communication Guide

SRR Matrix

Policy Reference Table

MCA Testing Opt Out Form

2023-2024 School Calendar

Final Approved on 03/13/2023

AUG/SEPT 19							OCTOBER 20							NOVEMBER 18						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23														
24	25	26	27	28	29	30														

DECEMBER 14							JANUARY 20							FEBRUARY 18						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29		
31																				

MARCH 5 14							APRIL 21							MAY 21						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	
31																				

Calculation of Teacher Work Days

1st Trimester	57
2nd Trimester	57
3rd Trimester	56
Total Instructional Days	170
Inservice Days	9.5
Conference Days	2.5
	12
Total Days	182

Please Note

This is a district-wide calendar.
For information regarding a specific school, please visit www.lsd47.org.

Calendar Key

	-Days of student attendance
	-August Bldg Inservice Flex
	-High School Conferences
	-Middle School Conferences
	-Elementary Conferences
	-End of Trimester
I	-Inservice
	-2 Hr Early Out; Staff PD
MEA	-Teachers Convention (unpaid)
H	-Holiday; School Closed

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

The first emergency closing of the year will not be made up.
The second through sixth emergency closings will be learning days.
The seventh and additional emergency closings may be made up on 2/16/24, 4/1/24 or 5/31/24.

Important Dates

August 1-August 25
.5 Day Flexible Inservice for Teachers
August 28-31
Back to School Inservice
September 4
No School; Labor Day
September 5-8
2023-2024 School Year Begins
Please check your students' building website for specific scheduling information.
September 5-8
Early Childhood Classes Begin
September 27
2-Hour Early Out; Staff PD
See building calendar for times
October 11
High School Conferences
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
October 12
Elementary Conferences
See building calendar for times
October 16
High School Conferences
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
October 17
Elementary Conferences
See building calendar for times
October 19-20
No School; MEA Break
October 26
Middle School Conferences
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
November 1
Middle School Conferences
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
November 6
No School; Teacher Inservice
November 22
No School
November 23-24
No School; Thanksgiving
November 30
End of Trimester 1
December 1
No School; Staff Inservice
December 22-January 2
No School; Winter Break
January 15
No School;
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Important Dates cont.

January 17
High School Conferences
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
January 18
Middle School Conferences
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
January 24
High School Conferences
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
January 25
Middle School Conferences
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
January 31
2-Hour Early Out; Staff PD
See building calendar for times
February 1
Elementary Conferences
See building calendar for times
February 8
Elementary Conferences
See building calendar for times
February 16
No School
February 19
No School; President's Day
February 20
No School; Teacher Inservice
March 7
End of Trimester 2
March 8
No School; Staff Inservice
March 29
No School; Good Friday
April 1
No School
April 17
High School Conferences
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
April 24
2-Hour Early Out; Staff PD
See building calendar for times
April 25
Middle School Conferences
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
May 27
No School; Memorial Day
May 28
Tentative Graduation Date
May 30
Last Day of School
May 31
No School; Teacher Inservice

Building/Department Info

Adult Basic Education
Office Hours: 8:00 to 4:00
Phone: 320-258-1111
Community Education
Office Hours: 8:00 to 4:00
Phone: 320-258-1577
District Office
Office Hours: 8:00 to 4:30
Phone: 320-253-4703
Early Childhood and Family Education
Office Hours: 7:30 to 4:00
Phone: 320-255-8910
Food Service Department
Office Hours: 7:00 to 3:30
Phone: 320-253-3628
Mississippi Heights Elementary
School Hours: 7:40 to 2:15
Office Hours: 7:00 to 3:30
Phone: 320-252-0122
Pleasantview Elementary
School Hours: 7:40 to 2:15
Office Hours: 7:00 to 3:30
Phone: 320-253-0506
Rice Elementary
School Hours: 8:50 to 3:30
Office Hours: 7:30 to 4:00
Phone: 320-393-2177
Sauk Rapids-Rice High School
School Hours: 8:25 to 3:20
Office Hours: 7:30 to 4:00
Phone: 320-253-4700
Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School
School Hours: 8:10 to 3:05
Office Hours: 7:30 to 4:00
Phone: 320-654-9073

6th grade			
PERIOD		A - DAY	B - DAY
8:10-8:30	1	Advisory	
8:35-9:05	2	Daily Flex Choice	
9:10-10:00	3	Core #1	
10:05-10:55	4	Core #2	
11:00-11:50	5A	Core #3	
11:55-12:45	6A	Core #4	
12:45-1:15	LUNCH	LUNCH	
1:20-2:10	7	Allied Arts	Allied Arts
2:15-3:05	8	Allied Arts	Allied Arts

7th grade			
PERIOD		A - DAY	B - DAY
8:10-8:30	1	Advisory	
8:35-9:05	2	Daily Flex Choice	
9:10-10:00	3	Core #1	
10:05-10:55	4	Core #2	
11:00-11:50	5A	Allied Arts	Allied Arts
11:50-12:20	LUNCH	LUNCH	
12:25-1:15	6B	Allied Arts	Allied Arts
1:20-2:10	7	Core #3	
2:15-3:05	8	Core #4	

8th grade			
PERIOD		A - DAY	B - DAY
8:10-8:30	1	Advisory	
8:35-9:05	2	Daily Flex Choice	
9:10-10:00	3	Allied Arts	Allied Arts
10:05-10:55	4	Allied Arts	Allied Arts
10:55-11:25	LUNCH	LUNCH	
11:30-12:20	5B	Core #1	
12:25-1:15	6B	Core #2	
1:20-2:10	7	Core #3	
2:15-3:05	8	Core #4	





Some questions to ask your child:

1. Can you read me your updates from today and/or show me your upcoming calendar on Schoology?
2. Did you submit your assignments that are showing up in the calendar as due?
3. Can you show me your submitted assignment on Schoology?
4. What is due tomorrow or later this week? Please show me this in Schoology.

Schoology vs. Skyward - Where should I Look?

In general, Schoology is more proactive, while Skyward is reactive. In other words, having your child show you what is happening on Schoology will allow you to see what is coming next, rather than seeing a grade that has been entered in Skyward for something that has already happened.


This a brief outline of each system

 <u>Schoology</u> <u>(Learning Management System)</u>	 <u>Skyward</u> <u>(Student Information System)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides most current, accurate academic information. • Provides update of what happens daily in class. • Shows assignments that can be submitted online (and sometimes offline) • Lists upcoming calendar events like tests, activities, due dates, etc. • Gives feedback to student on how they can improve/ revise their submitted assignments • Provides support materials that may include: video clips to explain concepts, notes, vocabulary flashcards, directions for how to navigate Schoology, daily planner of current and past events, etc. • Allows parents to send a message to teachers 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Academics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • view overall grade for a course • view missing assignments (ZAP reports)
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Other</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • schedule conferences • view student attendance • view student schedule • pay food service fees • view student discipline reports • view student locker information • view SkyAlert messages • view messages from teachers

Other points of emphasis:

- Assignments submitted to Schoology need to be assessed by the teacher before being assigned a grade. This doesn't necessarily happen automatically or instantly.
- Assignments submitted to Schoology are "timestamped," meaning they show what time and date they were submitted.

If you have a question about:	Contact	Phone Number	Email Address
Athletic or Activity registration, events, fees, etc.	Interim Middle School Activities Director: Matt Bueckers	320-258-1569	matthew.bueckers@isd47.org
Media Center fines, overdue books, internet usage agreement, etc.	Media Center Staff: Brandon Wehlage	320-258-1502	brandon.wehlage@isd47.org
Student schedules, academic programming or concerns, mental health support, attendance records, etc.	Student Services/Guidance Office Staff: Renee Biggerstaff Or Your student's counselor/social worker	320-258-1413	renee.biggerstaff@isd47.org tim.christoferson@isd47.org meghan.olson@isd47.org lisa.jarnot@isd47.org james.turner@isd47.org
Health information, medication, health records, immunization records, etc.	Health Services Assistant: Andrea Schuster	320-258-1407	andrea.schuster@isd47.org
General information, Fee payment, volunteer opportunities, etc.	Front Office Staff: Sue Rudnick or Dani Petter	320-654-9073	susan.rudnick@isd47.org danielle.petter@isd47.org

	SRRMS (School-wide)
<u>S</u> chool Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate and stay focused • Collaborate to problem solve • Communicate positively
<u>R</u> espect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate appropriate actions, words, and behaviors • Value all students and staff • Treat belongings and property with care
<u>R</u> esponsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be prepared • Use devices and materials appropriately • Be accountable for your actions

Policy Cross Reference Table

Find district policies here

Topic	District Policy Number(s)
Accident	806
Attendance	503
Bullying Prohibited	514
Cell Phone	506
Class Assignments	515
Complaints	103
Crisis Management	806
Discipline	506
Drug-Free School and Workplace	417, 418
Emergency Contact Information	515
Employee Directory	406
Employment Background Checks	404
Equal Access to School Facilities	801
Extended School Year	508
Field Trips	610
Fundraising	511
Graduation Requirements	613
Harassment and Violence Prohibited	413
Hazing Prohibited	526
Health Information	420, 516, 530, 806
Homework	506, 612.1
Internet Acceptable Use	524
Nondiscrimination	102, 401, 521, 522, 528
Notification of Violent Students	529
Topic	District Policy Number(s)
Pledge of Allegiance	531
Post-Secondary Enrollment Options	620
Schedule	602

School Closing Procedures	806
School Calendar	602
Searches	502
School Meals Policy	534
School Promotion and Retention	513
Student Publication and Materials	505
Student Records	515
Student Surveys	520
Tobacco-Free Schools	419
Transportation of Public School Students	707, 709
Vandalism	506
Visitors in School District Buildings	903
Weapons Prohibited	501

MCA Testing Opt Out Form



Parent/Guardian Guide and Refusal for Student Participation in Statewide Testing

This information will help parents/guardians make informed decisions that benefit their children, schools, and communities.

Why statewide testing?

Minnesota values its educational system and the professionalism of its educators. Minnesota educators created the academic standards which are rigorous and prepare our students for career and college.

The statewide assessments are how we as a state measure that curriculum and daily instruction in our schools are being aligned to the academics standards, ensuring all students are being provided an equitable education. Statewide assessment results are just one tool to monitor that we are providing our students with the education that will ensure a strong workforce and knowledgeable citizens.

Why are these assessments effective?

Minnesota believes that in order to effectively measure what students are learning, testing needs to be more than answering multiple choice questions.

- To answer questions, students may need to type in answers, drag and drop images and words, or manipulate a graph or information.
- The Reading and Mathematics MCA are adaptive, which means the answers a student provides determine the next questions the student will answer.
- The Science MCA incorporates simulations, which require students to perform experiments in order to answer questions.

All of these provide students the opportunity to apply critical thinking needed for success in college and careers and show what they know and can do.

Are there limits on local testing?

As stated in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.301, for students in grades 1–6, the cumulative total amount of time spent taking locally adopted districtwide or schoolwide assessments must not exceed 10 hours per school year. For students in grades 7–12, the cumulative total amount of time spent taking locally adopted districtwide or schoolwide assessments must not exceed 11 hours per school year. These limits do not include statewide testing.

In an effort to encourage transparency, the statute also requires a district or charter school, before the first day of each school year, to publish on its website a comprehensive calendar of standardized tests to be administered in the district or charter school during that school year. The calendar must provide the rationale for administering each assessment and indicate whether the assessment is a local option or required by state or federal law.

What if I choose not to have my student participate?

Parents/guardians have a right to not have their student participate in state-required standardized assessments. Minnesota Statutes require the department to provide information about statewide assessments to parents/guardians and include a form to complete if they refuse to have their student participate. This form follows on the next page and includes an area to note the reason for the refusal to participate. Your student's district may require additional information.

A school or district may have additional consequences beyond those mentioned in this document for a student not participating in the state-required standardized assessments. There may also be consequences for not participating in assessments selected and administered at the local level. Please contact your school for more information regarding local decisions.

When do students take the assessments?

Each school sets their testing schedule within the state testing window. Contact your student's school for information on specific testing days.

- The MCA and MTAS testing window begins in March and ends in May.
- The ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs testing window begins at the end of January and ends in March.

When do I receive my student's results?

Each summer, individual student reports are sent to school districts and are provided to families no later than fall conferences. The reports can be used to see your child's progress and help guide future instruction.

How much time is spent on testing?

Statewide assessments are taken one time each year; the majority of students test online. On average, the amount of time spent taking statewide assessments is **less than 1 percent of instructional time** in a school year. The assessments are not timed and students can continue working as long as they need.

Why does it seem like my student is taking more tests?

The statewide required tests are limited to those outlined in this document. Many districts make local decisions to administer additional tests that the state does not require. Contact your district for more information.

Where do I get more information?

Students and families can find out more on our [Statewide Testing page](https://education.mn.gov) (education.mn.gov > Students and Families > Programs and Initiatives > Statewide Testing).

Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools

District Policy 524 – *Internet Acceptable Use*, building and program handbooks, as well as the district's Code of Conduct expectations are applicable and effective for all students and staff regardless of the learning environment. Learning environments include, and may not be limited to any/all of the following learning scenarios.

- In-Person Learning;
- Hybrid Learning;
- Distance Learning;
- Online Learning; as well as
- e-Learning days, which may be used for inclement weather/emergencies.