

**School District of River Falls
Educational Program Committee Meeting**

Monday, August 11, 2025 - 6:00 PM

District Office

852 E Division Street

River Falls, Wisconsin 54022

Educational Program Committee members: Alan Tuchtenhagen (Chair), Lindsey Curtis, & Monica LaVold

A quorum of the Board may be present for information-gathering purposes only.

Agendas can be viewed at <https://www.rfsd.k12.wi.us/district/school-board.cfm> or at

<https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/1447>

1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 PM

2. MANNER OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

3. HEARING OF VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS

4. OVERVIEW OF RENAISSANCE CHARTER ACADEMY VAPE/SUBSTANCE POLICY AND GEDO-2 PROGRAM 2

Description: RCA Program Coordinator, Peggy Webb, will present an overview of the Renaissance Charter Academy Vape/Substance policy and the GEDO-2 program.

Recommended Action: None, informational only.

5. OVERVIEW OF RIVER FALLS HIGH SCHOOL VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING 11

Description: Lisa Goihl, Assistant Principal, Kim Bruesewitz, Counselor, and Olivia Quade, Virtual Coordinator, will present an overview of the virtual programming at River Falls High School.

Recommended Action: None, informational only.

6. APPROVE 2025-26 RIVER FALLS HIGH SCHOOL VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING STUDENT HANDBOOK 19

Description: Lisa Goihl, Assistant Principal, Kim Bruesewitz, Counselor, and Olivia Quade, Virtual Coordinator, will present the 2025-26 River Falls High School Virtual Programming Student Handbook for board approval. Specific changes are summarized below.

Recommended Action: Approve the 2025-26 River Falls High School Virtual Programming Student Handbook.

7. PROPOSED/SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR AND FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM MEETING AGENDA(S)

Description: As always, committee members will be given the opportunity to suggest items for future committee and/or Board meeting agendas.

Recommended Action: As needed.

8. SCHEDULE NEXT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Description: Upcoming committee meeting dates, times, and locations will be reviewed.

Recommended Action: Set the meeting schedule as follows:

Educational Program Committee meeting: Monday, September 15, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the District Office conference room, 852 E. Division Street.

9. ADJOURN



Renaissance Charter Academy Vape Policy and GEDO #2 Update

2025/2026



Vape and Sensor Policy

The Renaissance Charter Academy Vape and Sensor Policy

- Ensure a safe and healthy school environment
- Distinguishes between the possession and use of nicotine vape devices and controlled substances such as THC and other substances
- Outlines appropriate educational, disciplinary, and potential legal responses.



First Offense – Voluntary Surrender (Deferred Police Referral)

Nicotine-only devices include vapes, e-cigarettes, or any electronic nicotine delivery systems not containing THC or other controlled substances

Sensor-initiated report - Vape Sensor triggered:

- Zeptive Report will be verified
- Cameras will be checked
- Bathroom will be locked
- Student will be asked to surrender the vape
 - If voluntarily surrendered:
 - The device will be confiscated and destroyed.
 - Standard search of student, personal items and locker.
 - Parent/guardian notified.
 - Student is assigned a school-approved nicotine education or cessation program 1 day OSS.
 - **Police referral is deferred pending successful program completion.**
 - No citation will be issued if compliance is met.

Reasonable Suspicion - Staff Initiated:

- Cameras will be checked
- Student will be asked to surrender the vape
 - If voluntarily surrendered:
 - The device will be confiscated and destroyed.
 - Standard search of student, personal items and locker
 - Parent/guardian notified.
 - Student is assigned a school-approved nicotine education or cessation program.
 - 1 day OSS.
 - **Police referral is deferred pending successful program completion.**
 - No citation will be issued if compliance is met.



First Offense – Refusal/Non-Compliance

Nicotine-only devices include vapes, e-cigarettes, or any electronic nicotine delivery systems not containing THC or other controlled substances

Sensor-initiated report - Vape Sensor triggered:

- Zeptive Report will be verified
- Cameras will be checked
- Bathroom will be locked
- Student will be asked to surrender the vape

Failure to surrender:

- Search of student, personal items and locker

If device is found:

- The device will be confiscated and destroyed
- Parent/guardian notified
- 3 day OSS
- Student is assigned a school-approved nicotine education or cessation program.
- Police Citation
- Re-entry meeting

Search of student, personal items and locker

If no device is found:

- Parent/guardian notified
- 2 day OSS
- Student is assigned a school-approved nicotine education or cessation program.
- Police Citation
- Re-entry meeting

NOTE: Sensor notifies law enforcement immediately and has access to the Vape Sensor Report



First Offense – Refusal/Non-Compliance

Nicotine-only devices include vapes, e-cigarettes, or any electronic nicotine delivery systems not containing THC or other controlled substances

Reasonable Suspicion - Staff Initiated:

- Cameras will be checked
- Field test performed by a certified drug-impaired staff member
- Student will be asked to surrender the vape
 - Failure to surrender:
 - Search of student, personal items and locker

If device is found:

- The device will be confiscated and destroyed
- Parent/guardian notified
- 3 day OSS
- Student is assigned a school-approved nicotine education or cessation program.
- Police Citation
- Re-entry meeting

If no device is found:

- Parent/guardian notified
- Student will be sent back to class



First Offense – Refusal/Non-Compliance

Includes any vape or paraphernalia containing THC, synthetic cannabinoids, illegal substances, or prescription drugs not prescribed to the student.

Zero-Tolerance Response - Immediate law enforcement referral under Wis. Stat. § 961.41.

Sensor-initiated report - Vape Sensor triggered:

- Cameras will be checked
- Bathroom will be locked
- Field test performed by a certified drug-impaired staff member
- Student will be asked to surrender the vape/substance

Search of student, personal items and locker

- If device/substance is found:
 - Confiscation of all illegal substances or paraphernalia.
 - Parent/guardian notified
 - Up to 5 OSS pending investigation for review and decision
 - Police Citation
 - Disciplinary consequences include suspension, expulsion, or placement in an alternative education program

If no device/substance is found:

- Parent/guardian notified
- Up to 5 OSS pending investigation for review and decision
- Police Citation
- Disciplinary consequences include suspension, expulsion, or placement in an alternative education program.

NOTE: Sensor notifies law enforcement immediately and has access to the Vape Sensor Report



First Offense – Refusal/Non-Compliance

Includes any vape or paraphernalia containing THC, synthetic cannabinoids, illegal substances, or prescription drugs not prescribed to the student.

Zero-Tolerance Response - Immediate law enforcement referral under Wis. Stat. § 961.41.

Reasonable Suspicion:

- Cameras will be checked
- Field test performed by a certified drug-impaired staff member

If a student exhibits signs of impairment

- Student will be asked to surrender the vape/substances
- Search of student, personal items and locker
 - If a vape and/or device is found:
 - Confiscated and destroyed
 - Confiscation of all illegal substances or paraphernalia.
 - Parent/guardian notified
 - Police Citation
 - Up to 5 day OSS for investigation
 - Disciplinary consequences include suspension, expulsion, or placement in an alternative education program.
 - If no device/substance is found:
 - Parent/guardian notified
 - 1 day OSS
 - Resources offered

If a student DOES NOT show signs of impairment

- Student will be asked to surrender the vape and/or device
- Search of student, personal items and locker
 - If a vape and/or device is found:**
 - Confiscated and destroyed
 - Parent/guardian notified
 - Police Citation
 - Confiscation of all illegal substances or paraphernalia.
 - Up to 5 day OSS for investigation
 - Disciplinary consequences include suspension, expulsion, or placement in an alternative education program.
 - Search of student, personal items and locker
 - If no device/substances are found:**
 - Parent/guardian notified
 - Student will be sent back to class



Summary

All incidents

- Cameras checked and verified
- Bathroom will be locked
- Report checked and verified
- Search
 - Student
 - Items
 - Locker
 - Vehicle if applicable
- Items confiscated/destroyed
- Notification to parent/guardian
- Re-entry meeting

Nicotine Violation - Compliance

- Enrollment and completion of cessation program
- No citation
- 1 day OSS

Nicotine Violation - Non-Compliance

- Enrollment and completion of cessation program
- Citation
- 2-4 day OSS

THC/Other Violation

- Up to 5 day OSS for investigation
- Citation
- Disciplinary consequences include suspension, expulsion, or placement in an alternative education program.

Progressive Discipline Applies for Subsequent Violations



Technology Explanation

How does the technology work?



Voluntary Reporting

VOLUNTARY SELF-REPORTING (All Substances)

Students who proactively report possession/use before being investigated will:

- Avoid police consequences.
- Be referred to school counseling and/or external support services.

[Communication to Families and Students](#)



Renaissance Charter Academy GEDO #2 Update

2025/2026



GEDO #2 Update

- 19 students enrolled
 - 14 students completed
 - 2 students removed themselves from the program
 - 1 student transferred out of district
 - 2 students in progress





GEDO #2 Update

- Testing by the numbers
 - 50% passed all tests first attempt
 - 14% passed on second attempt
 - Math
 - Social Studies
 - 35% required competency testing
 - Math



GEDO #2 Update

- Test Results
 - Passing Score (145-164)
 - Honors - College Ready (165-174)
 - Demonstrates readiness for a college-level course
 - May qualify for placement testing waivers in specific content areas
 - Social Studies - 166
 - Science - 170
 - English - 171
 - High Honors - College Ready + Credit (175-200)
 - Demonstrates skills that could qualify for up to 10 college credit hours
 - Social Studies - 179
 - English - 181



GEDO #2 Update

What were our challenges and how we addressed them

- On-Site Test Center
- 3 software platforms to learn
- Process to register students with accommodations
- Student IDs
- Time management when students are near completion
- Math



GEDO #2 Update

What made us successful?

- On-Site Test Center
- RCA Staff
- River Falls School Board
- Renaissance Charter Academy Board of Governance
- DPI Consultant - Sherry Holly
- Parents and Guardians
- Motivated Students



GEDO #2 Update

RCA is excited for next year's cohort!

Questions?

Ed Programs - August 11th, 2025

RFHS Virtual School



RFHS Virtual Team Members



Lisa Gohl
Administrator



Olivia Quade
Coordinator/Coach



Kimberly Bruesewitz
Counselor



Lesley Schradle
Program Assistant



Presentation Highlights

★ Purpose and Vision

★ Program Structure

★ Data & Outcomes

★ Support Services

★ Accountability & Monitoring

★ Success Stories

★ Challenges & Improvements

★ Future Vision

★ Student/Parent data

★ RFHS Virtual Academy Handbook



Purpose and Vision

Why was the Virtual Academy developed?

- Started in 2020 due to COVID to allow for learning flexibility while meeting the needs of all students.
- The Virtual Academy has continued due to parent/guardian and student demand.

How does it align with your district's mission and goals?

- Promote equity and access to education regardless of location or individual circumstances
- Supports the goal of designing dynamic and relevant online curriculum that keeps students motivated and supports deep learning
- Foster connection and communication despite physical distance through discussion boards, group projects, and video conferencing

*****Students enrolled in RFHS Virtual Academy typically meet one of the following criteria: needing flexibility, medical issues, needing mental health support, or classes not offered at RFHS.**



Program Structure

Who qualifies?

- RFHS students in good academic standing

How do students enter the program?

- Parent/guardian/student submit application, the team reviews application and schedules a meeting with the family/student
- Enroll at beginning of semester unless extenuating circumstances

Delivery model

- Asynchronous classes are taught through Wisconsin Virtual School (WVS)
- Majority of students are full-time students with single class option due to course not being offered at RFHS
- Occasionally a RFHS teacher will instruct a class via online learning platform

Support

- Weekly W.I.N. meetings through Google Meet to communicate ACP expectations
- Twice weekly monitoring of student grades and activity
- Opportunity to report in person for academic support or assistance

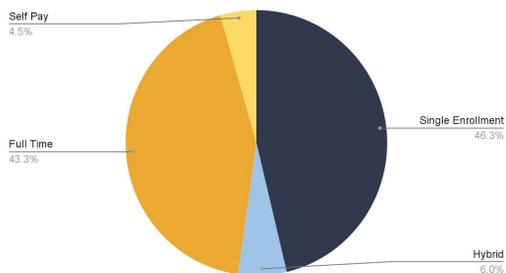


Data & Outcomes

Total Enrollments for 24-25: 67 (includes 3 self pay)

- Grade 12: 25
- Grade 11: 20
- Grade 10: 11
- Grade 9: 10
- Grade 6: 1

Enrollment Breakdown



Completion rates: 97.7% (311 total course enrollments)
8 total failures (5 RFHS, 2 RCA + 1 self pay)

***12 enrollments in Health Careers 1 due to RFHS staffing



Support Services

Academic support

- WVS Teacher Virtual Office Hours
- RFHS offers in school peer tutors for math
- Before and after school UWRF tutors (must sign up ahead of time)

SEL/mental health resources

- Students offered sessions with RFHS VA Counselor (Ms. Bruesewitz)
- Restorative Services

Technology access and support

- Provided Chromebooks and Tech support

Accommodations

- IEP/504 students are supported



Accountability & Monitoring Olivia

Student Monitoring

- Monday grade checks/ communication emails
- Additional monitoring if needed
- WVS auto generates reports weekly & WVS instructors send progres updates

Intervention strategies

- Reporting to school if behind 10+ assignments
- Restorative meeting with all involved parties
What are the consequences for non-engagement? (e.g., contract compliance, interventions)

Attendance Policies

- Attendance checks (hours logged + pacing) are check 3x during the term
 - Beginning (2 weeks)
 - Midterm (4.5 weeks)
 - End of term
- Students who receive 3 warnings return to in person learning opportunities



Success Stories

[2024-25 RFHS Virtual Program Feedback - Student](#)

[2024-25 RFHS Virtual Program Feedback - Parent/Guardian](#)

Student Testimonials:

“I like how flexible it is.” - RFHS VA junior

“I like that I am able to work more.” - RFHS VA sophomore

“Math is hard online.” - RFHS VA junior

100% of students said they felt supported from their RFHS Counselor, RFHS Coordinator, and WVS instructors

“How often do you feel isolated or disconnected in the virtual environment?”

- $\frac{2}{3}$ indicated “not at all”
- $\frac{1}{3}$ indicated “slightly”



Challenges & Improvements in 2025-26

- Requirement of **ALL interested, new and returning** Virtual students attend meeting during Open House in August
- Initial In-person enrollment meeting with Coordinator, Counselor, Admin, Student, and Parent/Guardian
- **ALL new students** enrolled in [Student Orientation course](#) through WVS before enrolling in other classes (must successfully complete and pass the course)
- [Attendance Letters](#)
- [Virtual Academy Enrollment Checklist](#) (for families during mtg)
- [RFHS Virtual Academy Handbook](#) implementation for 2025-26



Future Vision

Continue to seek feedback from all parties for improved operations

- Parent survey
- Student survey
- Staff input

Sustainability/Growth

- Students/families are continuously looking for flexible learning opportunities
- Post secondary pathway opportunities
- Opportunity to take exploratory courses
 - Introduction to Health Careers
 - French
 - German
 - ASL
 - AP Courses
 - Classes not offered at RFHS



Why have a separate RFHS Virtual Academy Handbook?

Seeking School Board Approval

[RFHS Virtual Handbook 2025-26](#)

Clarifies Expectations Specific to Virtual Learning

- Attendance policies in virtual settings often differ (e.g., based on logins, assignment submissions, or synchronous participation) and need clear explanation.
- Participation guidelines vary; students may attend via Google Meet, submit weekly check-ins, or engage in discussion boards—none of which apply in a traditional setting.
- Pacing and workload expectations are unique in asynchronous or self-paced formats and need to be communicated clearly.

Outlines Technology Use and Digital Citizenship

- Virtual students use tech daily. Policies around device use, internet safety, academic integrity (e.g., plagiarism, AI use), and cybersecurity are more critical and nuanced in an online environment.
- Details about required platforms, tech troubleshooting, and contact info for tech support can be centralized here.



Defines Roles of Families and Learning Coaches

- A virtual handbook can set expectations for family involvement, communication, and support.

Establishes Consistent Communication Protocols

- Explains how and when communication happens (e.g., weekly progress reports, email norms, grading timelines).
- May include escalation procedures for concerns or absences that are unique to online learning.

Provides Clear Discipline and Academic Integrity Policies

- Virtual misconduct (e.g., inappropriate online behavior, cheating via online tools) requires its own guidelines and consequences.



Questions?





River Falls

HIGH SCHOOL
VIRTUAL ACADEMY



2025-26 STUDENT **HANDBOOK**

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RFHS Virtual Academy Handbook

Welcome

Welcome to the River Falls High School Virtual Academy (RFHS VA).

We are excited to welcome you to a new school year filled with opportunities for learning, growth, and success. Whether you're joining us for the first time or returning as a continuing student, we are happy you're here.

This handbook is designed to serve as a guide to help you understand our expectations, policies, and opportunities. You'll find important information about academics, attendance, expectations, support services, and more. Please take the time to read through this handbook fully. You are responsible for knowing and adhering to what is stated in this handbook.

We believe that strong relationships between students, families, and school staff are essential to a successful virtual school experience. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions, concerns, or ideas. We're here to help and support you.

We look forward to an outstanding year together. Let's make it a great one!

Contact Information

SDRFVirtual@rfsd.k12.wi.us | 715-425-1830

River Falls High School Virtual Academy,
818 Cemetery Rd., River Falls, WI 54022

Name	Title	Email
Olivia Quade	Program Coordinator	olivia.quade@rfsd.k12.wi.us
Kimberly Bruesewitz	Counselor	kimberly.bruesewitz@rfsd.k12.wi.us
Lesley Schradle	Program Assistant	lesley.schradle@rfsd.k12.wi.us
Lisa Goihl	Administrator	lisa.goihl@rfsd.k12.wi.us

District Mission, Vision, and Values

Our Mission

Inspire all students through challenging, meaningful, and engaging learning experiences, in a safe and collaborative environment.

Our Vision

In partnership with families and the community, the School District of River Falls is an innovative PK-12 grade educational leader committed to the academic, social, emotional, and physical well-being of every student.

Our Values

STUDENTS FIRST

We center our policies, practices, and actions on doing what is best for all students.

PEOPLE MATTER

We value and respect our staff, and will find success by supporting their participation in collaborative learning communities.

EQUITY

We ensure the individual personal needs of every child are supported by high quality education/resources to pursue their unique potential.

RESPECT

We affirm the worth and dignity of all students, employees and community members. We foster a climate of civility, acceptance, and reasoned debate, embracing our diversity as a strength.

INTEGRITY

We ground our actions in character, honesty, responsibility, service, and compassion toward others.

EXCELLENCE

We embrace the continuous pursuit of improvement in school operations, services, and programs.

INNOVATION

We inspire and empower innovative thought and practice.

COMMUNICATIONS

We are accountable and transparent in order to maintain public trust.

Virtual Academy Mission and Vision

Our MISSION

The core purpose of RFHS Virtual Academy is to provide a personalized, engaging, and relevant educational plan for all students grades 9-12.

Our VISION

Promote equity and access to education regardless of location or individual circumstances, to support the goal of designing dynamic and relevant online curriculum that keeps students motivated and support deep learning, and to foster connections and communication despite physical distance through discussion boards, group projects, and video conferencing.

River Falls High School Mission and Pillars

Our Mission: River Falls High School is a community of care serving students to empower them to become their personal best.



Handbook Overview

This Student Handbook is a general reference guide only and is designed to be in harmony with board policy. Please be aware that it is not a complete statement or comprehensive listing of all policies, procedures, or rules that may be applicable in a given circumstance.

The River Falls School Board has other policies that are not included in this handbook, but are available for all students/parents upon request. In case of conflict between board policy and any provisions of the Student Handbook, board policy takes precedence and is to be followed. Also, please be aware that the handbook is updated yearly, while policy adoption and revision may occur throughout the year. The District reserves the right to modify provisions in the Student Handbook at any time, whenever it is deemed necessary.

Although the Student Handbook may refer to rights established through law or district policy, the Student Handbook does not create any additional rights for students and parents. It does not, nor is it intended to, create contractual or legal right between any students or parent and the district. If you or your student(s) has questions about any of the material in the handbook, please contact the principal or one of the assistant principals.

RFHS VA Program Description

RFHS Virtual Academy (RFHS VA) is our online option for students who desire or need another platform for education other than in-person learning. RFHS VA uses a combination of Wisconsin Virtual School courses and courses taught by our in-person teachers online through an online platform. Additionally, students have access to a school counselor and a virtual W.I.N. (What I Need) teacher.

RFHS VA students are welcome to join any of our extra-curricular activities, clubs, and teams as well as participate in events such as musicals, games, and college fairs. RFHS VA accepts applications for the upcoming semester. Students enrolling in RFHS VA are to plan to stay in the program for at least one full semester. Please note that there are certain dates where students may be required to be in person including but not limited to: State Testing, ACP portfolio work days, Senior Exit Interviews, or as deemed necessary by the RFHS VA staff.

Enrollment Guidelines

Enrollment Guidelines for New Students

Students must have a C or above and no truancy action in progress in order to transfer to the RFHS Virtual Academy.

1. Students interested in RFHS VA must schedule an appointment with their counselor.

2. Students/parents/guardians must complete the RFHS VA Application and submit to their counselor.
3. A meeting will be scheduled with student/parent/guardian, Admin, Virtual Coordinator, and Virtual Counselor.
4. If the application is approved, a schedule will be implemented.
5. Students must successfully complete the WVS Student Orientation course before beginning the WVS class enrollments.

Enrollment Guidelines for Returning Students

1. Students interested in continuing in RFHS VA for the following year must complete the school year intention survey that will be sent via email in May each year as well as submit the Returning Student Application.
2. RFHS VA staff will approve or deny for the upcoming school year based on success of the previous school year.
3. If approved, the Virtual Coordinator will reach out to set up a meeting to discuss courses for the upcoming school year.
4. If not approved, students will be expected to return in person at RFHS or RCA and an in-person schedule will be implemented.

*Enrollment for new and returning students will only be available at the beginning or end of a semester, as Wisconsin Virtual School (WVS) does not align with the two-term schedule of RFHS.

Responsibilities

RFHS VA Student Responsibilities

Students participating in the RFHS Virtual Academy must agree to all of the following. Students must:

- check school and WVS email accounts daily.
- respond to teacher/staff communications within 24 hours.
- communicate questions, computer problems, and school struggles with the teacher promptly.
- agree to use technology appropriately and follow the device guidelines given to them.
- maintain a study schedule of 4-7 hours per day (a minimum of one hour per class each day).
- attend all required in-person testing days at the specified locations. Testing dates and locations are determined by the school and will be made available to students and parents prior to the testing window.
- demonstrate adequate daily progress in each online course for every school day on the school calendar.
- post completed work on time and work ahead to stay on pace to account for planned absences.
- participate in all of the required days of scheduled school activities including face-to-face and online meetings with their teacher(s).
- read and agree to follow the Academic Honesty & Plagiarism policies.
- submit all assignments and assessments for each course before 10 pm on the course end date.
- complete the WVS Student Orientation course before starting any other WVS courses.

RFHS VA Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of students participating in the RFHS Virtual Academy must agree to all of the following.

- check school email communication at least twice a week.
- respond to communications from school personnel within 24 hours.
- provide their student with access to the necessary tools for student success, including internet access, and supervise appropriate use of technology.
- will not resell any learning materials purchased with taxpayer funds.
- ensure that their student is making adequate academic progress on a regular basis, as determined by the teacher.
- see that my student participates in required state testing at the School District of River Falls.
- read the SDRF Handbook and Addendum on the SDRF website.
- support their student to attend the required number of school days including conferences, face-to-face, and all of their scheduled online meetings.
- read and agree that their child will follow the Academic Honesty & Plagiarism policies.
- If their child does not complete the full school year, they will return all school purchased resources.
- work cooperatively with the school and student to solve any attendance problems that may arise and take an active role in supporting student(s) in course completion.

Students who do not turn in at least two assignments per class each week will receive an unexcused absence.

Failure to comply with contract requirements may lead to removal from the RFHS VA.

Students who fall more than 10 assignments behind pace **must** attend in person at RFHS until caught up. Failure to report will result in an unexcused absence for each requested day missed.

Attendance Expectations

We value each RFHS Virtual Academy student and strive to provide the best educational experience for them. Because of the nature of being a virtual school, the definition of student attendance is not based entirely on seat time in a physical location but rather on the student logging in to their online platform and working in their classes on a daily basis with the intent of making progress towards completion of the class. It is also based on student participation of all teacher-scheduled individual or small group meetings. This policy also recognizes that student attendance and course completion are a joint responsibility to be shared by the students and their parents or guardians.

Wisconsin state law (§118.15, Wis. Stat.) requires all students between the ages of 6 and 18 to attend school regularly. Habitual truancy is defined as missing all or part of five or more school days in a semester without an acceptable excuse. Failure to meet attendance requirements may result in further action under state law, including potential referrals to truancy officers.

In accordance with both district policy and Wisconsin state attendance laws, we are committed to ensuring that all students receive the necessary instructional time and support to succeed academically.

Attendance is monitored in 3 different ways:

- Students are expected to log in for their scheduled WIN meeting each week, or they will receive an unexcused absence for the block.
- Students who do not turn in at least two assignments per class each week will receive an unexcused absence.
- Students who fall more than 10 assignments behind pace **must** attend in person at RFHS until caught up. Failure to report will result in an unexcused absence for each requested day missed.

Course Progression

In addition to regular emails from RFHS VA and WVS staff, parents/guardians of students with attendance concerns will be notified of their students' unsatisfactory progress records up to three times each term. Attendance progress will be monitored at least once a week. These notices serve as both an attendance reminder and an opportunity to collaborate on a plan to improve engagement. **If a student receives three attendance letters, they will be required to return to in-person classes at RFHS the following term.**

Adding/Dropping Classes

Parents/guardians must approve all schedule change requests. An email will be sent to parents/guardians notifying them of your request. IF the parent/guardian does not approve of the student's request, the schedule change request will be denied.

Schedule Change Procedure for Term 1 and Term 2

Schedule change requests can be made from the time a student receives their schedule until *Tuesday, August 19th, 2025 at 3pm*. The schedule change request window for Term 1 and Term 2 classes is closed after that date.

Schedule Change Procedure for Term 3 and Term 4

Schedule change requests can be made from the time a student receives their schedule until *Friday, December 12th, 2025 at 3pm*. The schedule change request window for Term 3 and Term 4 classes is closed after that date.

Grades and Grading

Students are expected to submit all assignments for each class they are enrolled in daily. Assignments are graded just like the student is in a face-to-face course. Some assignments are graded automatically within the course, while the online instructor grades others. The student will receive comments from the teacher on completed assignments. WVS policy allows 72 hours for work to be graded. Please understand that most instructors also teach full time and thus cannot grade your work instantaneously.

All course work must be submitted by 10pm on their course end date. Following course completion, final grade reports will be posted to their transcript approximately two weeks after the course end date.

Students will follow District policy governing academic letter grades and pass/fail courses.

Since RFHS VA is a school within the River Falls School District, students attending RFHS VA will follow the District's graduation requirements.

A	93 -100	A-	90 - 92		
B+	87 - 89	B	83 - 86		
B-	80 - 82	C+	77 - 79		
C	73 - 76	C-	70 - 72		
D+	67 - 69	D	60 - 66	F	0 - 59

P Recognized for credit, but not included in the GPA. Prior permission from the principal is required to allow a "P" grade.

F Failure = 59% or below

W Withdrawal

I Incomplete: given for class work which is not completed because of a long-term absence due to illness or emergency. Arrangements for completion of a course must be made with the teacher. Incompletes must be made up within one week of the end of the grading period or the grade will be changed to an "F." If more time is needed due to unusual circumstances, approval of the principal is required.

Plus and minus signs may be used with letters A, B, C and D to indicate a position within that grade range. Exceptions: no A+ or D- grades are awarded. (A = 4.0, A- = 3.7, B+ = 3.3, B = 3.0, B- = 2.7, C+ = 2.3, C = 2.0, C- = 1.7, D+ = 1.3, D = 1.0, F = 0). See Board Policy 345.1 and 345.11.

Credit, Graduation Requirements, WIAA Eligibility

Students are allowed to take a maximum of eight credits per school year. This may be any combination of regular and/or virtual courses. Students enrolled at the high school are able to take one virtual class per quarter. An exception may be made for extenuating circumstances.

Graduation Requirements

In general, a total of 28 credits must be earned for a student to graduate from River Falls High School including the following:

- 4** credits of Language Arts, including Speech
- 3.5** credits of Social Science, including Geography
- 3** credits of Science
- 3** credits of Math
- 1.5** credits of Physical Education
- .5** credit of Health
- .5** credit Personal Finance
- 12** credits of electives

1 Term class = 0.5 credit

Semester class = 1.0 credit

A/B class = 0.5 credits per semester

See Board Policy 345.6 and 345.61

Wisconsin Virtual School

Students have an opportunity to take online enrichment courses not offered at RFHS. Students should meet with their school counselor if interested. Course descriptions may be found in the resource appendix of the Course Planning Guide and online at www.wisconsinvirtualschool.org. Students/families will be required to reimburse the school district for tuition costs in the event of failed or incomplete WVS classes.

WIAA Eligibility

A student is eligible for interscholastic competition if he/she is a full-time student in attendance at River Falls High School.

Academic Integrity

Honesty is a highly valued character trait at River Falls High School. Students are responsible for holding themselves and each other accountable for ethical use of information and ideas. When a student cheats, he/she is being dishonest with themselves and their teacher(s). Our goal is for students to learn and practice ethical behavior in regard to information and information technology. Academic integrity is an *obligation* for **all students** at RFHS.

Definitions:

Academic integrity involves adhering to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility in all facets of the learning process. **Academic misconduct** is considered a violation of academic integrity, either when acting alone or assisting others. Below are six (6) general areas that constitute academic misconduct including examples of each. Examples of academic misconduct include but are not limited to the following:

1. Committing plagiarism (see information below).
2. Submitting falsified or invented work/information instead of actually doing the work, research, or task themselves (changing or creating data in a lab experiment; writing up a fake interview). **This includes using ChatGPT or other A.I.-created work.**
3. Using unauthorized tools or materials in any academic work (using notes, programmable calculators, or other electronic devices) on an assessment when such use is not allowed (stealing, selling, or providing others with tests or course materials; using an online translator for more than words or phrases).
4. Misusing or falsifying academic documents (altering a transcript or report card; signing another person's name to an attendance roster or grade check; forging a hallway pass).
5. Purposefully damaging or hindering the work of others (hiding books or reference materials needed to complete an assignment; tampering with lab experiments, art projects, or electronic files of another student).
6. Assisting other students in any of these acts (allowing a person to use your notes on a test).

Plagiarism is taking credit, whether deliberate or not, for another person's or source's (print or non-print) ideas or words, works or processes without proper citation or credit. Sources do not need to be cited for material that is considered to be "common knowledge" i.e., factual information that is considered in the "public domain" because it is published in multiple standard reference works. Likewise, when common knowledge is related to a field or specialty, sources may not need to

be cited if the information is widely known to people within that field. Because it may be hard to determine what is considered common knowledge, it is a good idea to cite sources or ask your teacher for guidance. **Using ChatGPT or any A.I.-created work is prohibited as well.**

Cooperative Learning /Group Work: Because this type of work presents unique learning opportunities, it is important that each student complete their assigned part in a timely manner consistent with the teacher’s rubric and timeline. When a student relies on others to do their work, either intentionally or not, this may be considered academic misconduct, and the student may be subject to the consequences outlined below. Other members of the group who fully participate and complete their own work will not be subject to consequences.

Student Responsibilities: Students at RFHS are committed to practicing ethical behaviors when it comes to learning and using information and information technology. Students are expected to complete and submit their own work consistent with teacher guidelines for individual or group work and accepted standards such as the [MLA](#) (Modern Language Association) format. Students should ask for help/clarification early and often if they do not understand an assignment or are experiencing difficulty which may prevent the timely completion of their work.

Procedure if misconduct is suspected: When a teacher or staff member has reason to believe that academic misconduct has occurred, the following procedure will be followed: The teacher and/or an administrator will investigate the alleged misconduct with the student(s) by providing the student with a written or verbal description of the academic misconduct. The student will have the opportunity to present their perspective of the alleged misconduct either verbally or in writing. If it is determined that misconduct has occurred, the appropriate consequences will be assigned based on the protocol below.

Consequences for academic misconduct: When a teacher and/or an administrator has concluded academic misconduct has occurred, the following process may be used:

1. The teacher and/or an administrator will meet with the student to discuss the academic misconduct.
2. The teacher and/or an administrator will communicate with the parent(s)/guardian(s) in person or through a phone call to discuss the academic misconduct.

3. To earn credit on the activity/assignment/assessment after academic misconduct occurred, the teacher:
 - a. will determine what revisions must take place on the original submitted work,
 - b. will provide an alternate learning activity which will be used for the student to demonstrate proficiency of the learning target, and
 - c. will determine the appropriate timeline for the student to submit newly assigned coursework.
4. The student must complete the assigned revisions or new learning activity as provided by the teacher in order to be eligible for **any credit** for that activity/assignment/assessment.
5. Administration will meet with the student to reinforce academic integrity and expectations for learning.
6. The student may also be assigned detention, in-school suspension, or other academic consequences. A pattern of student academic misconduct will result in progressive disciplinary action. *Students who have had one incident of academic misconduct may not be able to redo the assignment if a second incident takes place.*

Technology, Textbooks, and Supplies

Electronic Devices

Students are to demonstrate respect and responsibility by refraining from using cell phones, other electronic communication, audio, video and gaming devices during instructional time. Electronic devices (included but not limited to cell phones, iPods, iPads, etc.) not necessary during instructional times should remain stored in student lockers. Issues with these items in the classroom may be referred to the principal's office.

Devices present or in use during instructional hours for non-educational purposes will be handed to school personnel by the student and returned after an appropriate consequence is served. This may include being returned at the end of the period, the end of the school day, after detention, or after meeting with a parent/guardian. Subsequent offenses may require detention, and/or a parent/guardian conference with the electronic device being turned over only to the parent or guardian. The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen items. See Board Policy 443.5.

Textbooks, Electronic Devices, and Supplies

Textbooks and electronic devices, which are furnished by the School District of River

Falls, are to be taken care of appropriately. Students are urged to exercise care in using them so that they do not become soiled or damaged. Charges will be made for lost or damaged school-owned items. Students who withdraw from RFHS are required to turn in their textbooks and/or school-owned electronic devices before leaving.

Supplies are furnished at no cost to the students in most classes, except Technology Education, Agriculture, Family Consumer Sciences (FCS), Physical Education, and Art classes that are involved with projects requiring materials for purchase at cost. In other classes, the students are encouraged to buy materials related to the course of study, although these items will not be mandatory, i.e. a graphing calculator for math courses. (NOTE: Students who need financial assistance to purchase supplies are encouraged to speak to their teacher or administration.)

Technology Device Student User Agreement

The School District of River Falls has provided technology devices to students to enhance personalized learning and improve achievement. These devices will be used in instruction to promote 21st century learning skills. All students, and their parents or guardians, who are issued devices are required to review and sign this agreement with the School District of River Falls to protect the hardware and software inherent with the technology. Student use of technology devices falls under the guidelines of the District's Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy (Board Policy 363.2). Technology devices will be distributed within the first two weeks of each school year. Parents/Guardians and students must sign and return the Student User Agreement before the device can be issued. The user agreement can be found at www.rfsd.k12.wi.us >Parents>Technology Resources, or use this link [K-12 Device User Agreement](#).

Taking Pictures or Videos of Students or Staff Without Their Consent:

Taking photos or videos of students or staff without their consent is prohibited for privacy purposes. If a student violates this rule, consequences (including but not limited to parent notification, documentation, detention, or suspension, depending on the situation) will result. Repeated violation of rules will result in further and possibly more serious consequences.

Using Student or Staff Member pictures or videos (or their likenesses) without their permission or using the River Falls Logo without permission:

Using a photo or video of a student or staff member, or their likeness, without their permission is prohibited. Students violating this rule will be subject to consequences (including but not limited to parent notification, documentation, detention, or suspension, depending on the situation). Repeated violation of rules will result in further and possibly more serious consequences.

Students using the River Falls logo without permission will also be subject to consequences (including but not limited to parent notification, documentation, detention, or suspension, depending on the situation). Repeated violation of rules will result in further and possibly more serious consequences.

Social Media & Networking Sites

While RFHS respects the right of students to use social media and networking sites, it is important that students' personal use of these sites does not damage the school's or district's reputation, its employees, its students, families, and community. What is private in the digital world can become public, even without knowledge or consent; therefore, students are to maintain appropriate boundaries between personal and public life when conducting online activities at all times.

Students are not allowed to use school-issued technology to access social media or networking sites for non-academic purposes. RFHS does not actively monitor students' use of social media and networking sites outside of school hours. However, inappropriate activities that become public and/or are brought to the attention of RFHS staff will be handled on a case-by-case basis. The information posted online through the use of cellphone, computers, or other electronic devices that damages the school's reputation, its employees, students, families, and/or community can be grounds for disciplinary action. RFHS and the School District of River Falls take electronic bullying very seriously. Inappropriate information includes (but is not limited to) acts of bullying & harassment, threats, and/or criminal activities.

Students experiencing bullying & harassment via online social media & networking sites should report incidents to staff so that the issue can be addressed and/or handled as needed.

Students are responsible for the ethical and educational use of the technology resources of the River Falls School District. Students should recognize that their reputation in cyberspace should be taken seriously as one's digital footprint can last a lifetime. See Board Policy 443.5.

Technology Device Damage Fee

Any student who damages their school district issued device or charging cord will be issued a fee of \$20.00 for each incident. In the event that a student loses or has their device stolen, or if there is irreparable/purposeful damage, the amount of the fee will be left to the discretion of Administration and is not to exceed the replacement cost of the device.

Student Device Damage Fees apply to all students in grades K-12. A student's repeated damage and misuse of district-issued devices may result in a loss of device use, greater fine amounts, and/or other disciplinary action as determined by the building administration.

(Cross Reference: 363.2--Rule, Internet Safety and Acceptable Use)

Computer loan agreement

[District Use of Network policy](#)

[2025-26 RFHS Virtual Academy New Student Application](#)

REFERENCE SOURCES:

2025-26 Wisconsin Virtual School Course List can be found here:

[WVS course catalog](#)