Redbank Valley School District

BULLDOGS

Believe, **U**nite, **L**earn, **L**ead, **D**evelop, **O**vercome, **G**row, and **S**erve

2026-2027

Student & Parent Handbook

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REDBANK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTORY

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
920 BROAD STREET
NEW BETHLEHEM, PA 16242
TELEPHONE 814-275-2426
FAX 814-275-2428

Dr. Michael Guidice	Superintendent
Rochelle Reitz	Business Manager
Kelly Ripple	Special Education Director
David Reitz	Cafeteria Director
Laura Neiswonger	Transportation Director
Courtney Harman	Special Education Secretary
Lauren French	District Registered School Nurse
Kyle Hicks	Curriculum Director/ Federal Program Coordi
Abigail MacBeth	Assistant Principal K-12
Pam Criner	School Psychologist
Nick Horner	Technology Specialist
Sandor Cserr	Technology Specialist
Bradley Gould	Building and Maintenance Supervisor

REDBANK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Heidi Byers - President	
Chris Merwin - Vice President	
Chris Adams	Briana Kiehl
Matt Confer	John Sayers
Mandy Blake	William Reddinger
Ricky Songer	

REDBANK VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL (K – 2)
600 VINE STREET, NEW BETHLEHEM, PA 16242
TELEPHONE 275-2680 FAX 275-4110

Sandra Shirey	Principal
Macie Boozer	Building Secretary
Hailey Stultz	School Counselor
Carolyn Husted	School LPN

REDBANK VALLEY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL (3 – 5)
1306 TRUITTSBURG ROAD, HAWTHORN, PA 16230
TELEPHONE 365-5141 FAX 365-2427

Sandra Shirey	Principal
Lisa Bowersox	Building Secretary
Hailey Stultz	School Counselor
Brandy Rearick	School LPN

REDBANK VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL (6-12)
910 BROAD STREET, NEW BETHLEHEM, PA 16242
TELEPHONE 275-2424 FAX 275-2428

Roddy Hartle	Principal
Wendy Edmonds	Secretary
Colleen Mogus	Athletic & Activities Secretary/ Book Keepe
Stephanie Bergman	School Counselor
Judy Rupp	School Counselor

Faculty and Staff

Primary Building	Intermediate Building	High School Building
Kindergarten:	**3rd Grade:**	**English Department:**
• Jackie Hopper Bright Beginnings • Tammi Smith • Tina Moore • Salena McCullough • Kristin Huffman	• Nicole Carrier • Roxane Lewis • Heidi Truitt • Kelli Traister	• Renee Kusnir • Matthew Hutchinson • Peyton Hause • Julie Aaron • Michael Fricko • Kristin Young
1st Grade:	**4th Grade:**	**Math Department:**
• Erica Grimes • Kim Merwin • Gabby Dinger • Siarra Runski • Riley Presloid	• Jamie Bowersox • Heather Hilderbrand • Jamie Jones • Ciara Irons	• Courtney Dougherty • Greg Smith • Brittany Weaver • Amanda Coradi • David Helper • Lila Rummell
2nd Grade:	**5th Grade:**	**History Department:**
• Molly Wingard • Tessa Troup • Mindy Traister • Brianna Minich	• Ryan Sherry • Carey Troup • Jenean Smith	• Dr. Joseph Harmon • Patrick Craig • Brady Carrier • Blane Gold
Title:	**Title:**	**Physical Education/Health:**
• Cari Darr • Cassie Faulk	• Linda Young • Julie White	• Andrew Rex • Megan Harmon • Craig Hibell
Special Services:	**Special Services:**	**Special Services:**
• Cherie Schultz • Vanessa Norris • Sarah King • Carlee Slater	• Lisa Myers • Meagan Hammond • Eric Yoder • Sami Leasure • Wendy Smith	• Barb Mitchell • Shannon Clouse • Holly McNaughton • Coltin Bartley • Karen Crawford • Taylor Medsger • Serena Johnston
Shared Staff:		**Science:**
• Kristen Landers- Computer Education • Craig Hibell- Physical Education • Jacqueline Hunt- Art • Eli Terwilliger- Music • Keegan McLean- Band • Jill Boyles- Library Connections • Hailey Schultz - School Counselor • Pam Criner- School Psychologist • Angie Stewart - ELL		• Devin Laird • Gregory Campbell • Michelle Hardt • Michael Bauer • Corbin Anderson • Leah Davis • Rachelle Kirkpatrick
		Electives:
		• Kevin Watkins - Tech. Ed. • Julia Omecinski - Art • Carrie McIntire - Choir

Primary Building	Intermediate Building	High School Building
Kindergarten:	**3rd Grade:**	**English Department:**
• Jackie Hopper Bright Beginnings • Tammi Smith • Tina Moore • Salena McCullough • Kristin Huffman	• Nicole Carrier • Roxane Lewis • Heidi Truitt • Kelli Traister	• Renee Kusnir • Matthew Hutchinson • Peyton Hause • Julie Aaron • Michael Fricko • Kristin Young
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• Erica Grimes • Kim Merwin • Gabby Dinger • Siarra Runski • Riley Presloid	• Jamie Bowersox • Heather Hilderbrand • Jamie Jones • Ciara Irons	• Courtney Dougherty • Greg Smith • Brittany Weaver • Amanda Coradi • David Helper • Lila Rummell
2nd Grade:	**5th Grade:**	**History Department:**
		• Keegan McLean - Band • Barbara Orange -FCS. • Dana Housley - For. Lang. • Mike Russo - Bus Tech./Gifted

Redbank Valley School District

Vision Statement

Redbank Valley School District strives to be a premier educational community that empowers learners through a student-centered approach to learning. We will promote academic excellence, creativity in the arts, and the innovative use of technology to prepare confident, well-rounded individuals for success in a diverse and evolving society.

Mission Statement

The Redbank Valley School District is providing a student-centered education that fosters academic excellence, creativity, and responsible citizenship. Through innovative instruction and integration of technology in a safe learning environment, we are preparing our students to reach their fullest potential and to succeed in a diverse, ever-changing world.

Equal Opportunity Educational Institution

Redbank Valley School District is an equal opportunity educational institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title IV, Title IX, and Section 504. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact the Superintendent, Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator at 920 Broad Street, New Bethlehem, PA 16242. For accessibility and use of the building by handicapped persons, contact any building administrator.

Civil Rights Policy (Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504)

The Redbank Valley School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, or handicap/disability in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures or for information

regarding services, activities, and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped persons, contact the Redbank Valley School District Superintendent at 814-275-2426.

FOREWORD

This handbook is provided to answer the most common questions that occur during the school year. Please keep it handy for those times when you may need it. From time to time the school issues bulletins and updated information related to the school program. Please keep these important documents and this handbook together in one place for quick reference. Much of the content in this handbook is derived from school policy. Some handbook items are shortened versions of the more complete wording that occurs in the policy. Therefore, this handbook is not a substitute for the Redbank Valley School District Policy Manual in policy matters. Questions of policy interpretation should be directed to the appropriate school officials. Parents should go over the contents of this booklet and make their children aware of the sections that directly apply to them. Although this handbook is an attempt to answer most of the questions that occur, it may not serve all of your needs. If you have a question about any school matter, please contact the appropriate school officials. A directory of school personnel is included for your convenience.
To review district policies log on to www.redbankvalley.net and look under parent resources.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

REDBANK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2026-2027

July 2026				
M	T	W	Tr	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

August 2026				
M	T	W	Tr	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				
			4	4

September 2026				
M	T	W	Tr	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		
			21	25

October 2026				
M	T	W	Tr	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
			21	46

November 2026				
M	T	W	Tr	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				
			18	64

December 2026				
M	T	W	Tr	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	
			17	81

January 2027				
M	T	W	Tr	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
			19	100

February 2027				
M	T	W	Tr	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
			19	119

March 2027				
M	T	W	Tr	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		
			20	139

April 2027				
M	T	W	Tr	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
			21	160

May 2027				
M	T	W	Tr	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				
			20	180

June 2027				
M	T	W	Tr	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

Students First & Last Day
Act 80 Day
Teacher In-Service
Early Dismissal
School Closed
Graduation
Snow Make-up/Vacation Day
Early Release to PM Flexible Instruction

August 24, 2026: In-Service Day
August 25, 2026: In-Service Day
August 26, 2026: First Day of School
September 3, 26, 2026: Early Release to PM Flexible Instruction
September 4, 2026: Act 80 Day
September 7, 2026: Closed- Labor Day
October 8, 2026: Early Dismissal to PM Flexible Instruction
October 9, 2026: Closed- ALF
November 6, 2026: Early Dismissal to PM Flexible Instruction
November 9, 2026: Act 80 Day
November 25, 2026: Early Dismissal
November 26-27, 2026: Closed- Thanksgiving Break
November 30, 2026: Closed- Hunting Day
December 23, 2026: Early Dismissal
December 24, 2026-January 1, 2027: Closed - Winter Break

Janurary 4, 2027: In-Service Day
January 15, 2027: Early Dismissal to PM Flexible Instruction
January 18, 2027: Act 80 Day/ Parent Conferences
February 11, 2027: Early Dismissal to PM Flexible Instruction
February 12, 2027: Closed Day/ Snow Make-Up Day
February 15, 2027: Act 80 Day/ County-Wide In-Service
March 12, 2027: Early Dismissal to PM Flexible Instruction
March 25, 2027: Closed Day/ Snow Make-Up Day
March 26-29, 2027: Closed- Spring Break
April 9, 2027: Closed Day/ Snow Make-Up Day
April 29, 2027: Early Dismissal to PM Flexible Instruction
April 30, 2027: Act 80 Day
May 13, 2027: Early Dismissal/ Track Invite
May 26, 2027: Graduation
May 28, 2027: Student & Teacher Last Day of School
May 31, 2027: Closed- Memorial Day

Additional make up days will be added to the end of the school calendar or completed remotely. If advanced notice of a cancellation is provided the district may utilize a remote learning day in lieu of a snow day.

This calendar is subject to change as necessitated by unforeseen events.

Approved: 4/28/2026

REDBANK VALLEY SCHOOLS

ELEMENTARY - Grades Kindergarten through 5:

The elementary program consists of two (2) elementary school buildings:

The Redbank Valley Primary School is located in the borough of New Bethlehem at 600 Vine Street. It serves children in kindergarten through grade two. In addition, there are two Primary Level Learning Support classrooms and an Autistic Support classroom.

The Redbank Valley Intermediate School is located at 1306 Truittsburg Road in the borough of Hawthorn. This building serves students in grade three through grade five. In addition, there are three Intermediate-Level Learning Support Classrooms and a Life Skills Support classroom.

SECONDARY: Grades 6-12:

The Redbank Valley High School is located at 910 Broad Street in the borough of New Bethlehem. It serves students in grades six through twelve. In addition, there are two learning support classrooms, junior high and high school. Two Life Skills Support classrooms and one Autistic Support Classroom. The Superintendent's Office is located in the high school.

SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

School may be canceled in the event of inclement weather or other emergencies. The local media will be contacted as quickly as possible to provide important information. The following is a list of the media who will be contacted in the event such emergencies arise:

- KDKA TV / WJAC TV / WPXI TV / WTAE TV /
- KDKA Radio AM 1020/ Clarion Radio FM 92.7/ AM 1300
- Brookville Radio FM 95.9
- DuBois Radio FM 107.3
- Redbank Valley School District Facebook Page

ONE CALL NOW

Keeping parents informed is a top priority at Redbank Valley. That is why we have adopted the ONE CALL NOW Notification Service which will allow us to send a telephone message to parents providing important information about school events or emergencies. In the event of an emergency at school, you will be informed immediately by phone.

The successful delivery of information is dependent upon accurate contact information for each student, so please make certain that the school has your most current phone numbers. If this information changes during the year, let our secretaries know immediately by sending an email wedmonds@redbankvalley.net, mboozer@readbankvalley.net, lbowersox@readbankvalley.net. If your email changes throughout the year, please email your updated address to emailchanges@redbankvalley.net.

What you need to know about receiving calls through ONE CALL NOW: Be sure to say "Hello" when you answer the phone. The technology must hear a voice to deliver. ONE CALL NOW will leave a message on any answering machine or voicemail. If any problems occur, or part of a message is missed, press any number between 1-9 to restart the message.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Emergency procedures for a variety of types of incidents have been planned for the district. Drills, both announced and unannounced, are held monthly to practice for emergency situations. In addition, the School Safety Committee continues to work with community officials (fire, police, and emergency operations) to develop comprehensive measures for responding to all kinds of emergencies. In the event of any of these types of emergencies, the district's ONE CALL NOW Phone System will be used and parents may tune to local radio and/or tv stations for information. Also, updates will be posted to the district's web site, www.redbankvalley.net , if our computer system has not been affected by the emergency. Evacuations of facilities have been practiced and planned for in each of the buildings in the district. In the event of an immediate evacuation, students will be evacuated to a host facility. Students will then be bussed home from that facility, or parents may pick them up there. If an immediate evacuation is not necessary, early dismissal procedures will be followed as in the past for weather emergencies.

Please make plans for you and your family in these situations, explaining to your children what they should do if we have an early dismissal and they are sent home early. There is a place on the school emergency response form for you to provide us with specific instructions. Keep in mind that during an emergency it is not possible for your children to call you. It may be some time before they are able to contact you. In the meantime, we have procedures in place for keeping your children safe until we are able to release them to you or transport them home.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE

Effective with the 2020-2021 school year, a child must comply with compulsory attendance requirements from age 6 until age 18 or graduation from high school, whichever occurs first. Specifically, a child who has attained the age of 6 on or before September 1 must enroll and attend school or begin a home school program that year. Any student less than 18 years of age who has not yet graduated from high school must comply with compulsory school age requirements.

The term "compulsory attendance" refers to the mandate that all children of compulsory school age having a legal residence in Pennsylvania must attend a day school in which the subjects and activities prescribed by the standards of the State Board of Education are taught in the English language, except in the following situations found in sections 1327, 1327.1, and 1330 of Pennsylvania's Public School Code.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

(In accordance with 22 Pa. Code, Chapter 12)

The Redbank Valley School District is committed to maintaining a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for all students. The Board of Education has the authority to establish reasonable rules and regulations governing student conduct while ensuring that no student is deprived of equal treatment, due process, a presumption of innocence, or free expression and association.

Student Rights

Students have the right to:

- Equal educational opportunities regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, religion, or disability.
- Due process protections before disciplinary action is imposed, including notice of the charges and an opportunity to be heard.

- A safe school environment free from bullying, harassment, hazing, and discrimination.
- Access to their educational records in accordance with FERPA.

Student Responsibilities
Students are responsible for:
- Attending school regularly, making up missed work, and making a conscientious effort in all classes.
- Knowing and following all rules and regulations outlined in this handbook.
- Respecting the rights, person, and property of all members of the school community.
- Volunteering information in matters relating to the health, safety, and welfare of the school.
- Cooperating with school personnel during investigations and reporting any known criminal arrests or charges to the building principal.
- Complying with all applicable Commonwealth and local laws.
- Exercising proper care when using school facilities, equipment, and property.

When a student is alleged to have violated the Code of Student Conduct, the district will follow established due process procedures appropriate to the nature and severity of the violation. A complete copy of 22 Pa. Code, Chapter 12 is available at each school office and at www.pde.pa.gov.

Declaration of Emancipation
A student may be considered emancipated when legal parental authority has been relinquished through a formal process. Emancipation is not based on student behavior alone but on documented legal and financial independence from parent/guardian control.
Requests for emancipation must include:
(1) a written, notarized statement from a parent/guardian or a court affidavit from the student; (2) verification of date of birth; (3) evidence of financial independence; (4) documentation showing a complete separation from parental support, including residence and marital or parental status if applicable.
Students determined to be emancipated are responsible for their own educational and legal decisions for school purposes.

PARENT AND GUARDIAN RIGHTS

The Redbank Valley School District recognizes and respects the rights of parents and guardians as partners in their child's education. The following rights are guaranteed under Pennsylvania law and applicable federal regulations:

Right to Access Educational Records
Parents and guardians have the right to inspect and review their child's educational records in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). To view records, contact your child's building principal or guidance counselor to schedule an appointment. School personnel may only access student records for legitimate educational purposes.

Right to Know Teacher Qualifications
Parents have the right to request information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals, including whether the teacher is certified for the grades and

subjects they teach, their college major and any advanced degrees, and whether paraprofessionals are providing instructional services. Parents will be notified if their child is taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet state certification requirements. Requests may be directed to the District Office at (814) 275-2426.

Right to Inspect Instructional Materials and Surveys
In accordance with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) and District Policy 235, parents have the right to inspect all instructional materials used in the educational program. Parents also have the right to inspect any third-party survey distributed to students. All requests must be submitted in writing to the building principal.

Right to Opt Out of Certain Activities
Parents have the right to opt their child out of the following:

- Disclosure of directory information to third parties, including military recruiters.
- Participation in certain third-party surveys covering sensitive topics as defined under PPRA.
- PSSA standardized testing, by submitting a written request to the building principal at least two weeks prior to the testing window. Parents must also schedule an appointment to review the assessment before the opt-out is finalized.
- HIV Infection education, when such instruction conflicts with the religious beliefs or principles of the student or parent/guardian, in accordance with District Policy 203.1.

Right to Participate in Educational Planning
Parents have the right to be involved in their child's educational program, including participation in parent-teacher conferences, Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings for students receiving special education services, and Section 504 accommodation plan meetings. Parents are encouraged to maintain open communication with teachers, counselors, and administrators throughout the school year.

Right to Receive Notices and Information
Parents have the right to timely notification regarding:

- Their child's academic progress, attendance, and behavioral concerns.
- Any disciplinary action taken against their child, including suspensions and expulsions.
- Their child's placement in or removal from any special program or service.
- Their child being taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not properly certified.

Right to File a Grievance
Parents who believe their child's rights have been violated may file a grievance with the building principal or the District Superintendent. Concerns regarding civil rights violations, including those related to Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, or the Americans with Disabilities Act, should be directed to the District Office at (814) 275-2426.
For more information regarding parent and student rights under Pennsylvania law, please refer to 22 Pa. Code, Chapter 12, available at www.pde.pa.gov, or contact the District Office at (814) 275-2426.

CHILD CUSTODY

Divorced and separated parents should not request school personnel to deny access to a child by the other parent unless there is a court document outlining custody specifics. In that case, a copy of custody orders is required to be submitted to the principal. We will make every effort to honor requests, but we cannot be held responsible for actions of non-custodial parents in their attempts to access their child.

PARENT ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS

All parents have online access to instant grade feedback on any class through the Parent Portal. In addition, parents may contact teachers to discuss grades and performance. Parents and legal guardians also have access to all of their child's paper records. To view records, an appointment must be made with the teacher. School district personnel may view student records only if they have a legitimate educational reason to do so.

PARENT CONFERENCES

Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the school about any questions regarding their child's schooling. It is suggested that parents/guardians reach out to teachers, via email, with concerns about the classroom. Conferences with teachers or counselors may also be set-up by emailing the teacher, guidance counselors, or principal. Staff email is the first initial of first name plus last name @redbankvalley.net. Appointments must be set up in advance for in-person conferences. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the school's main office.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS REPORT

The Redbank Valley School District is committed to keeping parents/guardians informed of their child's academic progress. Parents/guardians of students in grades K–12 have access to current grades through the District's Parent Portal. Teachers update grades regularly throughout the school year, and report cards are issued at the end of each grading period.

Students in grades 6–12 who are earning a failing grade (59% or below) may receive an academic progress report between grading periods. Parents should not assume that the absence of a progress report indicates satisfactory academic performance.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to monitor student progress through the Parent Portal and to contact their child's teacher at any time with questions or to request a conference. The District also provides annual parent-teacher conferences to discuss student progress and achievement.

The link to the gradebook can be found online at a link at www.redbankvalley.net.

REPORT CARDS

After each of four nine-week marking periods, a report card is prepared for each student through the ParentVue and StudentVue within the student information system (Synergy). Formal report cards are distributed approximately one week after the end of the first three grading periods in grades 1-5. At the high school, a hard copy of a student's report card may be requested and picked up in the main high school office upon request. The final report card will be uploaded to Synergy following the last day of school.

In addition to letter grades, this report includes attendance and occasionally teacher comments. Parents should pay particular attention to any major fluctuations in grades.

GRADING POLICIES - RETENTION

ELEMENTARY:

The following scale is used on the report card:

A 90 - 100%	S Satisfactory
B 80 - 89%	U Unsatisfactory
C 70 - 79%	I Incomplete
D 60 - 69%	M Medical
E 0 - 59%	

Retention

A final average of (D) is NOT satisfactory and can be considered a factor when making the decision for retention. A final average of (E) is failure in any subject.

In Reading, the major contributing factor to retention is the grade and the level at which the child is working. Below grade level placement may be considered as a contributing factor for retention. A child's placement in reading material is based on his or her capacity to learn the new skills at that level.

HIGH SCHOOL:

The following grades are used at Redbank Valley High School:

90-100%	A = Outstanding, shows excellence in meeting all course requirements;
80-89%	B = Clearly surpasses stated standards and shows above average success;
70-79%	C = Meets stated requirements with average success;
60-69%	D = Achieves minimum standards;
0-59%	F = Fails to achieve minimum standards; and

I = Incomplete Grade

An "I" grade may only be given when a student has failed to complete work due to legitimate reasons. An "I" must be made up within two weeks from the end of the marking period. Failure to submit missed work within two weeks will result in the missing work being graded as 0% by the teacher before calculating the letter grade for the marking period.

The final grade for a course is the average of all 4 quarters.

Retention

Students in grades 6–8 who fail two or more major subjects may be retained. Major subjects are English, Reading, Mathematics, and Science. Students may retake failed major subjects through an approved summer program, at the parent/guardian's expense, to be considered for promotion.

Students in grades 9–12 must earn the minimum number of credits shown below:

Current Grade	Minimum Credits Required to Advance	Promotion Status
Grade 9 → Grade 10	6 Credits	Sophomore
Grade 10 → Grade 11	12 Credits	Junior
Grade 11 → Grade 12	18 Credits	Senior

Credit totals are evaluated at the end of each school year. Students who do not meet the minimum credit requirement may not be promoted to the next grade level and should work with their school counselor to develop a credit recovery plan. Students must earn 25 total credits and meet all district and state graduation requirements to receive a Redbank Valley High School diploma. In accordance

with Board Policy 215, the building principal has the final authority in all promotion and retention decisions after considering academic performance and, when appropriate, consulting with school staff.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

Students in the Redbank Valley School District participate in Pennsylvania's required state assessments. These assessments measure student achievement, guide instructional planning, and help identify areas where additional support may be needed.

The following assessments are administered:

- **Grades 3–5:** PSSA English Language Arts and Mathematics
- **Grade 5:** PSSA Science
- **Grades 6–8:** PSSA English Language Arts and Mathematics
- **Grade 8:** PSSA Science
- **Secondary:** Keystone Exams in Algebra I, Literature, and Biology are administered upon completion of the corresponding course.

Assessment results are maintained as part of each student's educational record and shared with parents/guardians. Students who do not achieve proficiency on Keystone Exams may be assigned appropriate remediation.

SAFE2SAY SOMETHING — ANONYMOUS REPORTING

The Redbank Valley School District participates in the **Safe2Say Something** program, a youth violence prevention initiative operated by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. Safe2Say Something provides students, parents, and community members with a confidential way to anonymously report concerns about harassment, hazing, bullying, threats, or any situation where someone may be at risk of harm to themselves or others. The program teaches youth and adults how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media, from individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others, and to say something BEFORE it is too late.

How It Works:

1. Submit an anonymous tip through the Safe2Say Something app, website, or phone hotline
2. The crisis center reviews, assesses, and processes all submissions
3. The crisis center sends submissions to school administration and/or law enforcement for intervention
4. If needed, the crisis center may contact the tipster anonymously through the app for follow-up

Contact Safe2Say Something:

- Method Contact Phone: 1-844-SAF2SAY (1-844-723-2729)
- Website: www.safe2saypa.org
- App Safe2Say (available on iOS and Android)

Safe2Say Something tips may be submitted 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If there is an immediate emergency or danger, always call 911 first.

These policies are established in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 34 C.F.R. Part 106, Pennsylvania Act 26 of 2018 (Anti-Hazing Law), 22 Pa. Code Chapter 12, and Redbank Valley School District Board Policy. Questions regarding this policy or to obtain a copy of the district's report form may be directed to the building principal or the District Office at (814) 275-2426.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Importance of Attendance

Regular school attendance is required by Pennsylvania law. The Pennsylvania Compulsory Attendance Law mandates that all students of compulsory school age attend school. Compulsory school age means a student must remain enrolled from age 6 through age 18 or graduation from a regularly accredited high school, whichever comes first. A child who has attained the age of 6 on or before September 1 must enroll and attend school or begin an approved home school program that year.

The Redbank Valley Board of School Directors also requires regular school attendance, as research shows a direct correlation between school attendance and academic achievement. Several factors related to being in school directly enhance the learning process: teacher and student interaction, continuity of instruction, classroom participation, positive learning experiences, and outside study to reinforce classroom concepts. All of these factors form a chain of activity essential to student academic success. Once school absence breaks this chain, a student is burdened by make-up work and grades can suffer. All students are responsible for maintaining regular attendance or risk a citation and referral to the magistrate.

Attendance is recorded daily and is reflected on each student's report card, including total absences from school, absences from class, and late arrivals.

Lawful / Excused Absences

The Board considers the following conditions to constitute reasonable cause for absence from school in accordance with Title 22, Section 11.26 of the Pennsylvania School Code:

1. Illness
2. Quarantine
3. Recovery from accident
4. Required court attendance
5. Death in the immediate family
6. Impassable roads or severe weather conditions
7. Observance of a religious holiday approved by the Board
8. Religious instruction (not to exceed 36 hours per school year)
9. Health care appointments that cannot be scheduled outside of school hours
10. Family educational tours and trips approved in advance by the building principal
11. Participation in a project sponsored by a statewide or countywide 4-H, FFA, or combined 4-H and FFA group upon written request prior to the event
12. Other urgent reasons determined to be legitimate by the building principal

Trip requests are strongly discouraged during standardized testing weeks. Requests for educational trips during testing windows may be denied if assessments cannot be made up within the testing window. Refer to the district calendar at www.redbankvalley.net for testing information.

Unlawful / Unexcused / Illegal Absences

All absences will be treated as unlawful until the district receives a written excuse explaining the absence. Absences not covered by the lawful reasons listed above will be considered unexcused or illegal.

The following are examples of absences that will **not** be excused:

Oversleeping or alarm not going off, Missing the bus when busing is available, Vehicle breakdown when busing is available, Babysitting or caring for a sibling, Hair appointments, Shopping or personal errands, Work or employment obligations during school hours, Concerts, professional sporting events, or other entertainment, Vacations not submitted and approved as educational trips in advance.
The final determination of whether an absence is lawful, unexcused, or illegal rests with the building principal or designee.

Submitting an Excuse
Parents and guardians are responsible for notifying the school of their child's absence. The following procedures apply:
1. On the morning following the last day of absence, the student must provide a written excuse to the building office signed by a parent or guardian. The excuse must include:
- Student's full name
- Specific date(s) of the absence(s)
- The reason for the absence
- Parent or guardian signature

2. The excuse may be in the following forms: handwritten and turned into the school office, an email from a parent or guardian's personal or professional email address, or an excuse completed on the school information system - Synergy through ParentVue (Directions below). Excuses must include all of the information listed above and should be sent to the building attendance office secretary.
3. All excuses must be submitted within **three (3) school days** of the student's return to school. Any absence for which an excuse is not received within three days will be recorded as unexcused or illegal and will not be changed regardless of the reason. No exceptions will be made after the three-day deadline.
4. A **doctor's excuse** is required in the following situations:
- The student has been absent for five (5) or more consecutive days
- The student has accumulated ten (10) or more cumulative absences during the school year
- The building principal has determined that a pattern of absences warrants medical documentation

5. Students returning from a medical or dental appointment during the school day must present the doctor's or dentist's professional appointment card or a signed note from the provider to the attendance office upon return.

Submitting Electronic Attendance Excuses Through ParentVUE
Parents/guardians can conveniently submit student absence excuses electronically through **ParentVUE**.
Please follow the steps below:
Step 1: Log in to ParentVUE
Log in to your ParentVUE account using your username and password.
Step 2: Select Report Absence
Click the blue **Report Absence** icon.
- You may report an absence **before the absence occurs** or **on the day of the absence**.
- If you wait until **after** the absence, a **red notification number** will appear on the blue **Report Absence** icon. This number indicates how many absences are awaiting an excuse.
- Electronic excuses must be submitted **within three (3) school days** of the absence. After that time, the absence will be considered **illegal/unexcused** in accordance with district attendance procedures.

Step 3: Complete the Excuse
Enter the required information, including:

- Date of the absence
- Reason for the absence (select from the drop-down menu)
- Notes describing the reason for the absence
- Attach a doctor's excuse, if applicable

Step 4: Submit the Excuse
Click **Save** to submit your excuse.
Once your excuse has been reviewed by the school, you will receive an email notifying you whether the excuse has been **accepted** or **rejected**.
If you have questions or need assistance with ParentVUE, please contact your school's attendance office.

Consequences for Unexcused and Illegal Absences (HIGH SCHOOL ONLY)
Absences by students age 17 and under that are not accompanied by an approved excuse are considered **unlawful or illegal**. Absences by students age 18 and older that are not accompanied by an approved excuse are considered **unexcused**.
All illegal and unexcused absences will result in the following progressive disciplinary action:

- **1st offense:** Written reprimand and parent or guardian notification
- **2nd offense:** One (1) hour detention
- **3rd offense:** Two (2) hour detention
- **Subsequent offenses:** In-School Suspension (ISS)

When three (3) illegal absences have accumulated, parents or guardians will be notified in writing that additional illegal absences will result in legal action in accordance with the Pennsylvania School Code, including:

- Fines of up to **$300.00 per illegal day**
- Possible suspension or delay of the student's driver's license
- Suspension of school privileges including extracurricular activities, parking passes, dances, prom, and participation in graduation ceremonies

Students age 17 and under who accumulate four (4) or more illegal absences will be reported to the District Magistrate.
Students age 18 and older who accumulate unexcused absences are subject to the school's disciplinary procedures, which may include expulsion and loss of privileges including prom, field trips, parking, and participation in graduation ceremonies.

TRUANCY PROTOCOL

The Redbank Valley School District follows the Clarion County Truancy Protocol in addressing chronic absenteeism. After three (3) unlawful absences, the school will:

1. Send a written notice to the parent or guardian
2. Complete a Truancy Referral Form to the Clarion County Children and Youth Services (CYS) and Clarion County's Promise
3. Schedule a Truancy Elimination Plan (TEP) meeting with the family

If the Truancy Elimination Plan is not followed or absences continue, the school will file a citation with the District Magistrate. The district is committed to working with families to address the root causes of absenteeism before pursuing legal action.

Tardiness

Students are expected to arrive at school on time every day. Tardiness disrupts the learning environment and contributes to lost instructional time.

- **Elementary:** Students arriving after **8:10 a.m.** are considered tardy and must report to the building office with a signed tardy excuse from a parent or guardian.
- **JR/SR High School:** Students reporting to homeroom after **7:55 a.m.** are considered tardy to school and must report directly to the Attendance Office to obtain an admittance pass.

Tardiness will be recorded as follows for elementary students:

- Arrival between 8:11 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. = one-quarter (¼) day absence
- Arrival between 10:01 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. = one-half (½) day absence

These prorated absences count toward compulsory attendance requirements.

The following are examples of tardiness that will **not** be excused:

- Oversleeping
- Missing the bus when busing is available
- Vehicle breakdown when busing is available
- Being late due to personal errands or appointments that could be scheduled outside of school hours

After accumulating **six (6) unexcused tardies**, JR/SR High School students will lose the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities for up to the remainder of the school year.

Repeated tardiness may result in additional penalties as described in the Code of Student Conduct and may include legal action.

Make-Up Work

Students are responsible for all work missed during any absence from school. The following guidelines apply:

1. Credit for make-up work is limited to days the student was **legally absent**. Work missed due to unexcused or illegal absences cannot be made up and will receive a grade of zero.
2. For absences of **two (2) or more days**, parents or guardians may contact the building office to request assignments. Most teachers post assignments to Google Classroom, which is accessible at any time.
3. Upon returning from an absence, students have **two (2) school days** to make arrangements with their teachers regarding make-up work.
4. All make-up work must be completed within **one (1) day for each day absent** after arrangements have been made, unless the absence was extended or mitigating circumstances exist. Exceptions require approval from the building principal.
5. Students on **In-School Suspension (ISS) or Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)** are responsible for all classroom work missed during the suspension period. Teachers will provide daily work either in packets or electronically through Google Classroom and/or district email. Packets must be completed and turned in upon return to school from the suspension. If assigned electronically, the assignment must be submitted electronically by **3:07 p.m.** each day of the suspension or the assignment will be recorded as a zero. The public library may be utilized for Internet access if needed.
6. Students who miss school due to **school-sponsored field trips, athletic contests, or other school events** must make arrangements with their teachers **prior** to the scheduled absence. Additional time beyond the standard make-up period is at the discretion of each individual teacher.

Early Dismissal

The Redbank Valley School District asks that parents and guardians schedule medical and dental appointments outside of school hours whenever possible. When an appointment during school hours is necessary, the following procedures must be followed:

1. A written request for early dismissal must be submitted to the building attendance office **on the morning of the dismissal**. The request must include:
   - Student's full name
   - Date of dismissal
   - Exact dismissal time
   - Reason for dismissal
   - Name and phone number of the doctor, dentist, or other provider
   - Parent or guardian signature and a callback phone number
2. The early dismissal time listed on the request is the time the student will leave the building, not the time of the appointment.
3. Students must **sign out** in the main office before leaving the building and **sign back in** upon returning to school. Students returning from a medical or dental appointment must present a provider's appointment card or signed note to the attendance office.
4. The following will be considered **unexcused** early dismissals and will result in a failing grade for all work missed:
   - Hair appointments
   - Shopping or personal errands
   - Work or employment obligations
   - Concerts or professional sporting events

TRANSFER FROM SCHOOL / WITHDRAWAL

Students planning to transfer to another school or withdraw should time the withdrawal at or near the conclusion of a grading period. **For the transfer process, the student will remain enrolled at Redbank Valley School District until an official records request is received from the student's new school of enrollment.** Families are encouraged to inform the school of their intention to transfer and reasons to help with the transfer process.

For withdrawals, the Guidance Office and attendance secretary should be notified at least one (1) day in advance of the withdrawal. At this time the proper procedures will be explained to the student and he/she will be provided with the necessary forms from the attendance secretary. **All students planning to withdraw must be 18 years of age and accompanied by a parent/guardian before being permitted to do so**.The return of a properly completed withdrawal form to the office, return of all books/materials, and payment of all fines and obligations will officially withdraw the student and permit us to forward transcripts and records to the new school.

TUITION AND AFFIDAVITS

Pupils may be accepted at Redbank Valley Schools on a tuition basis. Each request will be reviewed on an individual basis by the Superintendent and the Board of School Directors. If approved, tuition must be paid monthly and in advance. The tuition rate will be calculated in accordance with the procedure established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

A student is considered a resident of the school district in which their parent/guardian resides. Any student who does not have a parent/guardian residing in the Redbank Valley School District may be

admitted only through tuition agreement, court placement, or other exceptional circumstances approved in writing by the Superintendent. In all cases, an affidavit of residence and responsible person must be completed in accordance with the Pennsylvania School Code.

EDUCATIONAL TOURS AND TRIPS

A student may be excused for an educational tour or trip taken with a parent or guardian. The school does not encourage such trips and absences are limited to five (5) school days per school year. The following conditions must be met:

1. A Student Educational Trip Form must be submitted to the building office at least ten (10) school days prior to the trip. Forms are available in the building offices and are located on the district website.
2. The request must include a description of the educational activities planned during the trip.
3. Trip requests will not be approved during standardized testing weeks (PSSA, Keystone Exams). Requests during these periods may be denied if assessments cannot be made up within the testing window.
4. Trips may be denied if the student is currently failing any course, has excessive absences, or has repeated disciplinary offenses.
5. Upon return, students must complete the selected or assigned project, please see grade level guidelines within the elementary and high school sections. The project must be completed and submitted to the building principal within ten (10) days of return.
6. All other missed work must be made up within one (1) week of the student's return to school. It is the student's responsibility to gather missed assignments.
7. Failure to comply with any of the above requirements will result in all absences for the trip being recorded as unexcused or illegal.

HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

When a student has an injury or extended illness that prevents school attendance for more than **ten (10) consecutive school days**, a parent or guardian may request homebound instruction through the building principal. Homebound instruction provides a minimum of **five (5) hours of instruction per week**.

To qualify for homebound instruction:

- **Physical illness or injury:** A licensed physician must provide a specific diagnosis, confirmation that the student is able to receive instruction at home, and an estimated duration of the homebound period.
- **Emotional, nervous, or mental health conditions:** A licensed psychiatrist or psychologist must provide a statement supporting the request.

All requests are reviewed by the guidance counselor and building principal and forwarded to the Superintendent for final approval.

This policy is established in accordance with the Pennsylvania Public School Code, 22 Pa. Code Chapter 11, Title 22 Sections 11.21–11.41, and Redbank Valley School District Board Policy. Questions regarding attendance should be directed to your child's building office or the Guidance Department

HOMELESS STUDENT SERVICES

(McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act)

The Redbank Valley School District is committed to identifying students experiencing homelessness and connecting them with the resources needed to ensure their academic success. Under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, all school districts are responsible for providing homeless students with equal access to the same educational programs and services provided to all other students.

Who Is Considered Homeless?

Children or youth living in any of the following situations are considered homeless under McKinney-Vento:

Shelters or transitional housing, Hotels or motels, Vehicles, campgrounds, or on the street, Doubled up with friends or family due to a lack of alternative resources

An *unaccompanied homeless youth* is a child or youth who is not in the care of a parent or legal guardian and meets the definition of homeless under McKinney-Vento. Unaccompanied homeless youth have the right to immediately enroll in school, even without a legal guardian present.

Where Can Homeless Students Attend School?

Homeless students have the right to remain in their school of origin — the school they attended at the time of the homeless episode or the last school attended — through the end of the school year in which they find permanent housing, provided it is in the student's best interest. If it is determined through consultation between the school, the family, and/or the unaccompanied youth that remaining in the school of origin is not in the student's best interest, the student has the right to immediately enroll in the school serving the attendance area where the student is actually living, even without all required documentation.

What Supports Are Available?

Homeless students are eligible for a range of supports and services to remove barriers to educational success, which may include:

- Transportation to the school of origin
- Free meals
- Referrals to physical and mental health providers
- Clothing to meet school dress requirements
- Access to school supplies and resources
- Assistance with credit recovery and tutoring
- Expedited evaluations for special education services
- Opportunities in school activities, including sports, clubs, and parent engagement opportunities

Enrollment

Homeless students will be immediately enrolled in school even if they are unable to produce the following documents typically required for enrollment:

- Birth certificate
- Immunization records
- Proof of residence
- School records

The district will work with the family or unaccompanied youth to obtain any missing documentation after enrollment is complete.

REDBANK VALLEY CYBER SCHOOL

Redbank Valley School District offers two cyber education options designed to meet the diverse learning needs of our students. Both programs provide a high-quality online education while allowing students to remain enrolled in the Redbank Valley School District.

Redbank Valley Cyber School – GO ROCKETS Online Campus (ROC)

Redbank Valley partners with the Titusville Area School District to offer the **GO ROCKETS Online Campus (ROC)**. This full-time cyber program provides students with a flexible online learning environment while maintaining their connection to Redbank Valley.

Benefits of the ROC include:

- Curriculum developed and supported by Pennsylvania educators.
- Certified teachers who provide live instruction and daily support.
- A consistent, user-friendly online learning platform across all courses.
- Technology and instructional resources provided to participating students.
- The opportunity for eligible students to participate in Redbank Valley athletics, extracurricular activities, dances, prom, and graduation ceremonies.
- Ongoing academic and technical support for students and families throughout the school year.

Educere Online Learning

Redbank Valley also partners with **Educere** to provide an online learning option for students whose educational needs may be better served through a flexible, individualized program. Educere offers a comprehensive catalog of Pennsylvania standards-aligned courses taught by Pennsylvania-certified teachers.

Benefits of Educere include:

- A wide variety of core academic, elective, Advanced Placement (AP), and credit recovery courses.
- Flexible scheduling that allows students to complete coursework at times that best fit their individual needs.
- Courses aligned to Pennsylvania Academic Standards.
- Instruction and feedback provided by certified online teachers.
- Regular communication regarding student progress and performance.
- An excellent option for students with unique scheduling needs, medical concerns, or other circumstances requiring a flexible learning environment.
- Students remain enrolled in the Redbank Valley School District and may continue to participate in eligible district extracurricular activities in accordance with district and PIAA requirements.

Families interested in either cyber education option should contact their child's principal to discuss eligibility, determine the program that best meets the student's educational needs, and begin the enrollment process.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities is considered a privilege. Students are expected to maintain satisfactory academic performance, attendance, and conduct in order to participate in school-sponsored and/or school approved activities.

Academic eligibility will be determined each Friday using cumulative grades from the beginning of the current grading period. To remain eligible, a student may be failing no more than one (1) subject,

whether a major or minor course, for 3 consecutive weeks. A student failing two (2) or more subjects will be declared academically ineligible for the following week, beginning Monday and continuing through Saturday of that week. Please see chart below:

Amount Classes	Explanation
When a student is failing 1 class:	Week 1 of failing: Warning
	Week 2 of failing: Warning
	Week 3: Ineligible from all activities for the following week
When a student is failing more than 1 class:	Week 1: Ineligible from all activities

Students who are academically ineligible may not participate in any extracurricular or co-curricular activities during the period of ineligibility. This includes, but is not limited to, athletic contests, practices, scrimmages, performances, rehearsals, competitions, clubs, field trips, release-time activities, student organizations, dances, ceremonies, and any other school-sponsored activities occurring outside the regular instructional program.
At the conclusion of each grading period, students must have passing grades in all subjects, including both major and minor courses, to remain eligible. Any student who fails one or more subjects at the end of a grading period will be ineligible for the first ten (10) school days of the next grading period .
At the beginning of each school year, eligibility will be based on final grades from the previous school year. Students who are academically ineligible at the conclusion of the previous school year will be ineligible for the first twenty (20) days of eligibility of the new school year.

Eligibility pertaining to PIAA guidelines can be found within the RVHS Athletic Handbook.
These eligibility requirements apply to all school-sponsored extracurricular and co-curricular programs, including but not limited to athletics, drama, musical productions, marching band, student council, National Honor Society, clubs, dances, field trips, release-time activities, and any other activity sponsored or approved by the school district.

SCHOOL OPERATION AND PROCEDURES

Arrival and Dismissal Times:

Primary and Intermediate Building		
	Regular Schedule	**2- Hour Delay Schedule**

Student Arrival	8:00-8:10 a.m.	10:00-10:10 a.m.
Tardy Time	8:11 a.m.	10:11 a.m.
Dismissal Times	**Bus** - 2:46 p.m. / **Walkers** - 2:55 p.m.	

High School Building		
	Regular Schedule	**2- Hour Delay Schedule**
Student Arrival	7:30-7:54 a.m.	9:30-9:54 a.m.
Tardy Time	7:55 a.m.	9:55 a.m.
Dismissal Time	3:07 p.m.	

ORIENTATION TO 6TH GRADE - MISSION TRANSITION

Each spring, fifth grade students participate in "Mission Transition," a visit to the high school designed to introduce students to high school routines, staff, and expectations. Students follow a modified school schedule, eat lunch at the high school, and return to their building at the end of the day. Students receive a course selection form for sixth grade, which must be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to school. In August, incoming sixth grade students and their families are invited to an orientation program to meet staff, tour the building, review schedules, and ask questions.

TELEPHONE AND ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Telephone Use

Students are not permitted to use school telephones without permission. Students should be directed to the office to contact parents with staff permission. Parents should limit calls to the school during the instructional day to emergencies or urgent matters. If a parent needs to speak with a teacher, a return call may be necessary, as teachers are generally unavailable while instructing students (Emailing is encouraged.)

Parents are asked not to make routine changes to dismissal or transportation plans during the school day. Changes should be communicated in writing and sent with the student whenever possible. Emergency dismissal changes must be received by the school offices no later than **2PM.**

Cell Phones, Smart Watches, and other Electronic Devices

Students are encouraged not to bring any personal electronic devices to school, but if they do, parents and students understand they do so at their own risk. The District is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices of any kind.

Grades K–5: Cell phones and smart watches may only be used before or after school or while riding district transportation. During the school day, cell phones must remain powered off or silenced in a student's backpack, and smart watches may not be worn or used unless approved for a documented medical need.

Grades 6–12: All students in grades 6-12 are required to store cell phones/Smartwatch/Earbuds in their assigned homeroom lockboxes or in their locker at the beginning of the school day. Cell phones

may not be carried on a student's person or used during the school day unless specifically authorized by school personnel for an approved educational or medical purpose.
Students found in possession of a cell phone during the school day will be required to surrender the device to the office. The device will be held in the main office and may be able to be picked up at the end of the school day. Refusal to surrender a device when directed by a staff member will be considered insubordination and may result in additional disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

- Personal electronic devices may not be used in classrooms, restrooms, offices, locker rooms, or other restricted areas unless specifically authorized by a staff member for educational or emergency purposes.
- Photographing, video recording, or audio recording on school property, school buses, or at school-sponsored activities is prohibited without authorization. Pennsylvania law prohibits recording private conversations without the consent of all parties.
- Students who refuse to surrender an electronic device when directed by a staff member are subject to disciplinary action for insubordination.

Violations of this policy may result in confiscation of the device, parent/guardian pickup, loss of privileges, and/or additional disciplinary consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. School officials may inspect a device when there is reasonable suspicion that it contains evidence of a violation of school rules or applicable law.

Consequences for Any Cell Phone Violations:
1st - Phone confiscated and placed in the main office for the day; student picks up at the end of the day.
2nd - Phone confiscated and placed in the main office for the day; parent/guardian must pick up the phone from school.
3rd - Phone confiscated and placed in the main office for the day; the next 3 additional days, students will be required to place their phone in the main office each day and may pick up at the end of each day. Conference with parents may be required
4th+ - Phone banned during school day; behavior plan or discipline referral issued
Chronic misuse may result in further disciplinary action per the student code of conduct.
Smart Glasses are not permitted to be worn during the school day.

WEAPONS POLICY

The Board recognizes the importance of a safe school environment and its impact upon the educational process. Possession of weapons in the school environment is a threat to the safety of students and staff and is prohibited by law.
The Board prohibits possession of weapons and/or replicas of weapons in any school district building or on school property during the regular school day and/or during any school sponsored or district approved event or activity.
For the purposes of this policy a "weapon" shall be defined as follows:
"**Weapon**" - any device, instrument, material or substance, which under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used, or threatened to be used, is readily capable of causing physical injury or terror.
This definition includes, but is not limited to, any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchuks, brass knuckles, firearm, shotgun, rifle, BB or pellet gun, look-alike gun, chemical agent, explosive

device, and/or instrument, tool, or implement capable of inflicting bodily injury or causing fear of same. This includes ammunition.

For the purposes of this policy "possession" shall be defined as follows:

"**Possession**" - a student is in possession of a "weapon" when the weapon is found on the person of this student, in the student's locker, or under the student's control while he/she is on school property, on property being used by the school, at any school function or activity, at any school event held away from the school, or while the student is on his/her way to or from school. Additionally, any student who is responsible for bringing a weapon into the school environment or to school activities, regardless of whether or not the weapon is in his/her possession at the time of discovery, shall be guilty of violating this policy and shall be treated as if in possession. Violation of Section 912 of the Pennsylvania crimes code shall also constitute a violation of this policy.

The school district, in compliance with Act 26 of 1995 of the Public School Code, shall expel for a period of not less than one (1) year any student found to be in possession of this weapons policy. Such expulsions shall give in conformance with formal due process proceedings as required by law.

The Superintendent may, on a case-by-case basis, recommend discipline short of expulsion and in the case of an exceptional student take all necessary steps to comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The Superintendent or a designee shall report the discovery of any weapon prohibited by this policy to the student's parents/guardians and to local law enforcement officials. Further, the Superintendent shall report acts of violence and/or possession of a weapon on school property in violation of this policy to the Office for Safe Schools on the designated form twice per year, as required.

The Superintendent or a designee shall take the necessary actions to develop a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials that set forth procedures to be followed when an incident occurs involving an act of violence or possession of a weapon on school property.

An exception to this policy may be made by the Superintendent, who shall prescribe special conditions or procedures to be followed.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel in conjunction with their duties are permitted. (RVSD Policy 218.1)

STUDENT CONDUCT AT SCHOOL EVENTS

Students will exercise the best behavior possible at both elementary and high school events. All school rules must be followed during these activities even if they occur at another campus within the Redbank Valley School District or other hosting school district. If violations should occur, the discipline code will be enforced. A student could be suspended from attending or participating in all Redbank Valley Elementary and High School events if his/her conduct is not desirable.

Courtesy must be shown toward all opponents and officials at all sporting events. Booing opponents and/or officials is one example of unacceptable behavior.

SCHOOL PROPERTY AND TEXTBOOK CARE

Students are responsible for the proper care and authorized use of all school property, including textbooks, supplies, equipment, technology, and furniture. Textbooks must be returned to the issuing teacher at the end of the course or upon withdrawal from school.

Students are financially responsible for lost, damaged, or unreturned textbooks and other school property. Replacement or repair costs may be assessed based on the condition and replacement value

of the item. Students who damage, misuse, or vandalize school property may also face disciplinary action and, when appropriate, referral to law enforcement.

STUDENT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Redbank Valley School District expects all students to complete their work honestly and ethically. Plagiarism is the use of another person's words, ideas, or work without proper acknowledgment, including copying, submitting another person's work, failing to cite sources, or presenting paraphrased material as original.

Students suspected of plagiarism may be required to provide their research sources. Academic dishonesty will result in consequences in accordance with the District's Code of Student Behavior (Level II Violations).

LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS

No student in grades K–12 may leave the building or school grounds during the school day unless accompanied by a staff member or authorized designee or properly signed out through the main office by an approved adult. Students who leave without following proper procedures, including going to the parking lot without permission, will be considered truant from class and may be subject to disciplinary action.

SELLING IN SCHOOL

Redbank Valley School District Policy prohibits selling or solicitation of funds in school. Fundraising by approved school organizations may be approved by the building principal. All fundraising must be pre-approved by the principal and will be limited to (2) activities per semester per club or organization. Fundraising in addition to this established maximum may be allowed at the principal's discretion for special circumstances and must also be approved. Request forms are available in the Main Office. Nothing can be sold on school district grounds or at school-sponsored activities without prior administrative approval. No food items may be sold in or near the cafeteria immediately prior to or during lunch periods.

SCHOOL INSURANCE

The Redbank Valley School District annually selects one insurance company to make available to interested students an accident insurance policy. The selection of this company does not represent the district's endorsement of the company's product, but rather makes available the purchase of group accident insurance at group-discounted rates.

It is required that any student who participates in athletics carry some form of insurance. Student insurance is offered at the beginning of each school year. Insurance information is provided on the school website under the Parent Resources tab and click on "Student Accident Insurance".

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

School assemblies are held throughout the school year to supplement the school curriculum. These school or PTO sponsored activities are an important part of the school program for students. Parents/guardians are not permitted to attend school assemblies and functions unless they are part of the support team assisting with the assembly or receive a personal invitation from the school. If parents/guardians are invited to participate or view the activity, directions will be conveyed prior to

attending the assembly or school event.

LOST AND FOUND

Students who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office where the owner can claim them. Items left for more than thirty (30) days will be discarded.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are school sponsored activities. All field trips must be pre-approved through the administration. The sponsor must complete and submit the Redbank Valley School District Pre-approval Request. Teachers plan and arrange field trips as an extension of classroom learning. However, attendance on a field trip is considered a privilege, not a right.

When teachers plan trips, they may need chaperones. Chaperones must have all clearances (Act 151: Child Abuse, Act 34: State Police, and Act 114: FBI Fingerprinting) on file in the building office by the teacher-established date prior to the field trip. Instructions for obtaining these clearances are available online. All chaperones are under the direction of classroom teachers and are there to support the goals of the trip. A complete list of field trip requirements is provided by the teacher when the field trip is planned and is shown on the following page.

Field Trip Information

This section is provided as a general information guide for all field trips for Redbank Valley Schools. It covers all of the basic information concerning trips sponsored by the school. Please read this information carefully:

● The teacher will provide all of the basic information for the trip on a separate handout. This will include dates, times, cost, etc.

● Redbank Valley School District policy advises that all trips are under the direction of the school and the sponsoring teacher.

Chaperones

● Chaperones are required to follow all Redbank Valley School District policies while on field trips.

● Chaperones must have all clearances.

● Some important considerations: No smoking, vaping, or using smokeless tobacco on the trip

● No weapons including pepper sprays

● No inappropriate language

● Chaperones will not drive a private vehicle on the trip. Chaperones shall accompany the children on the bus to and from the destination. If that is not possible, then the parent should not volunteer as a chaperone.

● Trip cooks and/or other assistants need not ride the bus if they are hauling equipment, etc. to the trip destination. The principal will need to approve all non-chaperone positions for a field trip (cooks, equipment haulers, etc.). Children may not accompany parents who have these roles.

● Chaperones are not permitted to take younger siblings along on the trip.

Students

● Students are under the direction of the teacher at all times. This means even if the parent is accompanying as a chaperone.

● No students may leave the trip for any reason. All students shall return to the school at the end of the trip. Exceptions for very unusual circumstances may be granted.

● No student shall attend a trip unless a signed permission slip is on file.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Building Visitors

All visitors to any Redbank Valley building must obtain a visitor's pass from the security desk or main office. A driver's license is required to obtain a pass. Passes are only issued to those who are visiting specifically to contribute to the academic program or extracurricular program. All visitors must enter through the main entrance. This safety measure is designed to help us maintain awareness of who is in the building and for what purpose. During the school day, visitors will be limited to the lobby area unless they are in the building for PTO business or have a pre-scheduled meeting with a teacher/administrator. For reasons of safety and the smooth operation of the school, those not obtaining a pass, those who are on school grounds without permission, and those who have been denied permission to be on school grounds will be considered to be criminally trespassing and may be prosecuted.

At least one day before bringing a visitor to the school, you must inquire at the office to see that the visitation will be permitted. If permitted, the visitor will be given a special pass from the office. Visitors of school age should reside 30 miles from the school district or further.

Visitors will not be allowed to disturb teachers during classes.

PARENT VOLUNTEER CLEARANCES

The law requires background checks and clearances for any parents/guardians wishing to serve as a volunteer in their child's school. Volunteers include those who wish to chaperone on school field trips. Two of the clearances (Act 151: Child Abuse clearance and Act 34: PA Criminal History Check) are free for volunteers, while the Act 114: FBI Fingerprint Clearance has a fee attached to it and also requires the volunteer to report to a local fingerprint center (IU6 in Clarion is the closest) to have their fingerprints taken. Clearance applications may be obtained online as follows: Act 34: PA Criminal History Check: (https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.isp), Act 151; PA Child Abuse Clearance (https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS), and Act 114: FBI Fingerprint Clearance (https://uenroll.identogo.com with Service Code: 1KG6XN). Parents are encouraged to apply for these clearances early in the school year so that they do not miss the teacher's field trip chaperone deadline later in the school year. Once obtained, these clearances are good for 5 years and are kept on file in the district office.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The safety and security of our children is of the utmost concern. We must from time to time take measures that appear inconvenient to those who are used to coming and going freely from school buildings. Please bear with us when we ask you to…

…use the main entrance to the building (all others are locked),

…check into the office when you visit school,

…wear a visitor's badge at all times,

…identify yourself to any staff member who may stop you.

RIGHT TO SEARCH

At no time does the Redbank Valley School District relinquish control of hallways, lockers, physical education lockers, or any other part of the school building or property. School officials reserve the right to and will randomly search any and all school property at any time there exists an immediate danger to the health, safety and welfare of others. These searches may encompass any and all items stored in lockers or in any other area of school property. In addition, school officials have the right to search students, their direct possessions, and automobiles parked on school property if there is reasonable suspicion that the student is in violation of any school rule or policy, or poses a threat to themselves or others while on school property. Searches may include, but are not limited to, the utilization of a certified police drug detection dog, metal detection units, or any other device deemed useful in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the school population.

SCHOOL SERVICES

Health Services

The school is responsible for the emergency handling of a sudden illness or accident, but is not responsible for subsequent treatment. The school's responsibility is limited to "First Aid". Treatment by school personnel is limited to such treatment as will protect life and comfort of the individual until authorized treatment is secured.

If an accident or illness occurs at school, it is the parent's responsibility to pick up the child within a reasonable amount of time to take him/her home. This is the reason the emergency information kept by the teacher must be up to date with your correct phone number. The teacher should also be informed about a person to call in the event that you are not home. It is not the responsibility of the school nurse to take youngsters home in case of illness or accident at school.

Forms / Required Documentation

Parents/guardians will be required to sign/agree to acknowledgement and return four forms at the beginning of the school year. These include an Emergency Information Card, a Computer Ethics Form/Chromebook Insurance, Media Release Form, and a Signature Form sign/agree to acknowledgement by both parent/guardian and student after reading the Student Handbook and agreeing to comply with all aspects of the Handbook. Not completing or turning in these forms will result in a delay in enrollment or disciplinary action. For convenience, forms are available to be filled out online through the Synergy ParentVue.

Students will bring home many forms the first week of school. These forms include an emergency form, student accident insurance, lunch menu and application for free and reduced lunches. The prompt return of these forms is very important. In addition, throughout the school year various forms, permission slips, etc. will be sent home by the school nurse for your signature. Please make an effort to return these forms promptly to the school.

Keep us informed

Parents should continually keep the nurse and the school informed of any new health problem that may arise during the year.

Medication in School

The school nurse is assigned to administer medications to pupils at school. However, in situations where the school nurse is not available school employees may administer medication to pupils as per administration. Appropriate forms must be submitted by the student's physician and parents/guardians prior to medications being administered.

All medications, even non-prescription medications, such as Tylenol or cough syrup, **must** be in the original container and the appropriate forms are filled out. **These medications should be brought to**

school by the parent and given to the school nurse or secretary. Please do not send medication to school unless it is absolutely necessary.

If medication must be given at school, the appropriate forms must be completed by the physician and parent for the student to receive medication. Please contact the school nurse for the appropriate form. All medications, short term, as well as daily medications, must be left in the nurse's office.

Required Health Services

The Pennsylvania School Health Code mandates the following services:
Physical Examinations at original entry (K or 1st), grades 6 and 11.
Dental Examinations at original entry (K or 1st), grades 3 and 7.
Height and Weight at all grade levels annually.
Hearing screening at grades K, 1, 2, 3, 7 and 11.
Scoliosis screening in grades 6 and 7.
Vision screenings for all grades annually.

The school will provide the facilities for conducting the examinations. However, the State Department does encourage parents to have these examinations performed by the family physician and dentist at the parent's expense. The school provides forms for these examinations. Please contact the school nurse for the appropriate forms.

NURSE'S OFFICE

A student becoming ill during the school day should report to the nurse after first reporting to his assigned area. All students reporting to the nurse **MUST** have a pass. When the nurse deems it necessary, she will inform the parent/guardian of the problem. If a student leaves school without the consent of the nurse or administration, the absence will be considered unexcused unless the student returns with a doctor's note. When the nurse is not available, students who are ill should report to the office. Students returning to class must have a pass signed by the nurse or by the office. No student is to be found loitering in the nurse's office or leaving the building without written permission. The nurse is not permitted to administer any medication other than that prescribed by a physician or approved in writing by a parent/guardian; however, students taking medication in school must register with the nurse.

GUIDANCE SERVICES

Redbank Valley School District's school counselors are committed to helping students meet their personal, social, educational, and career goals. Through delivering a comprehensive, developmental school counseling program, the counselor assists children in acquiring the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to become effective students, responsible citizens, productive workers, and lifelong learners. The school counselor provides counseling, consultation, prevention, developmental classroom activities, and intervention services to support the school's academic mission, to enhance the learning process, and assist students in making informed positive choices fulfilling their personal potential. The program's ultimate goal is for all students to graduate with the competencies necessary to make self-directed, realistic, responsible decisions and to be successful contributors to a rapidly changing global society.

An important part of the school counselor's role is consultation. Counselors may consult with parents, faculty, other school staff, and community agencies in order to best meet the individual needs of all students. Some of the more common consultation roles for a counselor include: facilitating teacher-parent conferences, test interpretation, working with outside support agencies and private

medical doctors to deliver necessary treatment programs, and meeting with students and parents to address academic, behavioral, and emotional needs.

Students desiring to meet with the mental health specialist, must be referred by the guidance department.

Elementary Schools Counselor - Ms. Hayley Stultz hstultz@redbankvalley.net
Junior High School Counselor – Ms. Stephanie Bergman sbergman@redbankvalley.net
Senior High School Counselor – Mrs. Judy Rupp jrupp@redbankvalley.net

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

A Student Assistant Program exists at the school consisting of a multi-disciplinary team composed of school personnel and invited specialists from the community; only those people who have received formal training in understanding adolescent chemical use, abuse, and dependency as well as adolescent depression and suicide may be members. The current membership is comprised of the principal, school counselor, and faculty members. The district recognizes that these students may need some form of intervention in order to prevent harmful behaviors. SAP evaluates referrals made to them by faculty, parents, students, or any other source. Should a need be established, then the team serves as a referral source to assist the student in getting appropriate help as soon as possible. This help could consist of individual counseling, participation in one of the various groups that meet at the school to address common problems, or referral to an outside agency.

FOOD SERVICES

The Redbank Valley School District participates in the National School Lunch Program and the National School Breakfast Program. **For the 2026-2027 school year, the district will be participating in CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) meaning each enrolled student is entitled to one free reimbursable breakfast and one free reimbursable lunch each day school is in session. Students must take the minimum required components at meal service to receive the meal at no cost. Ala Carte items and second entrees are available for sale and are priced separately.**

As a participant in the Community Eligibility Provision, the district does not accept or process applications for Free and Reduced meals.

Payment Procedures and Policies

1. Each student has a cafeteria account that uses their 6 digit student identification number.
   a. Pre-payments can be sent to the school or on-line utilizing the "MySchoolBucks" link that can be found on the district's website. Payment by check is preferred. Parents who have more than one child enrolled within the district can write one check and indicate in the memo section what amount should be deposited into each child's account. Checks can be made out to "Redbank Valley Cafeteria"
   b. No charging of a la carte items is permitted.
   c. Pre-payments are preferred. When purchases are paid with cash at the point-of-service (POS), no change will be given to the student. Instead, the funds will be deposited into the student's account.
   d. All balances, positive and negative, will be carried over from school year to school year.

MySchoolBucks.com is an online portal you are encouraged to use to pay for your child's meals. Adding money to this account is simple. If you have not set up your account, you may access the website from the www.redbankvalley.net homepage. Once you have set up your account, you may add your child(ren). If you have multiple children, you can make multiple deposits for each child during your transaction. Next, make a payment. The deposit amount can be charged to a credit card, debit card or your checking account. All payments are securely processed using a highly secure website and encryption. All payments are quickly credited to your student's account.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Studies have shown a strong link between improvement in a child's academic performance and a nutritionally sound breakfast. Many of our students are eating breakfast at home, and we encourage this to continue. However, for those students not eating breakfast at home, a school breakfast is being offered. **Breakfast is free of charge to all students**.

ALA CART SNACK SALES

When time permits, snack items are offered for sale after lunch has been served. The school reserves the right to deny snacks to children who owe lunch money, and children who do not eat their lunch first. Students wishing to make a la carte purchases must have funds available in their accounts or cash in hand; regardless of their eligibility status. There is no charging of a la carte/snack items. Parents/Guardians may request account restrictions/notes to be placed on their child's account such as "no a la carte purchases," "only 1 snack per day." , etc

If you have any questions regarding the Food Service department, please feel free to call or email David Reitz at 814-275-2424 ext 410 or dreitz@redbankvalley.net

No child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age, or handicap in the operation of child feeding programs. If you believe that you have been discriminated against write to the SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, DC 20250

CAFETERIA CONDUCT

Students will use the cafeteria facilities in a mature manner and will meet the following standards of responsible behavior:

1. Report promptly to the cafeteria and remain there until dismissed by the teacher on duty.
2. Follow procedures as instructed by the cafeteria staff and teachers on duty.
3. Obtain permission from a teacher on duty before leaving the cafeteria for any reason, such as using restrooms or the telephone in the high school office. **High school students will not be permitted to go to their lockers during lunch.**
4. Talk in a conversational tone - do not make excessive noise (yelling, pounding on tables, talking in a loud voice, etc.).
5. Clean up all litter/food on or around your table.
6. No food or drink (other than drinks that conform to the school rules) is to be consumed outside of the cafeteria unless approved by administration.
7. Failure to report to lunch is a class-cut and will be dealt with according to the disciplinary code. Misconduct may result in lunch detention or other disciplinary action.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Redbank Valley School District provides a number of services to students who have special needs. The programs include:

● Learning Support Services - These classes are located in all three buildings and serve exceptional students within the primary, intermediate and high school level.

● Gifted Program - This program is operated in all three buildings for academically talented students.

● Title I Reading and Math Program - This federally funded program is operated by the Redbank Valley School District in order to serve the needs of students having difficulty in reading and/or math. It serves students in grades K - 5 in reading and grades 3 - 5 in math.

● Psychological Services - A certified school psychologist is available to consult with teachers and parents about students having learning or behavioral difficulties. After going through the Child Study process, children thought to be exceptional will be given a series of tests by the school psychologist to determine the nature of the problem. Parent or guardian permission is required before these tests may be given. For students thought to be exceptional, special education programs are available within the district to meet their needs. Parent/ Guardian permission is again required before the child may be placed in any special program. The psychologist will meet with the parent to explain the test results. The school psychologist also tests to determine eligibility for the Gifted Program. If you feel that your child is in need of any special services provided by the school system, please contact the school. The school secretary can direct you to the proper personnel.

● Guidance Services - A certified school counselor is available to consult with teachers, parents, and students. These services are provided for students experiencing short-term school related emotional upsets. The school counselor will provide short-term counseling or refer the student and/or parent/guardian to the district's behavioral specialist and /or social worker. Referrals may also be made to outside agencies such as private practitioners or counseling centers.

● Child Study Team - This is a team that includes your child's classroom teacher, the Title 1 teacher, school counselor, school psychologist, principal, school nurse, or any other staff member who is involved with your child's education. The team meets and develops intervention and adaptation plans for helping meet the needs of children who are having difficulties in their school program.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY & INTERNET USE POLICY

PLEASE NOTE: The following is Redbank Valley's Computer Technology and Internet Use Policy. As noted in the policy, a signed consent form is required for students to have access to the Internet. This consent form will be sent home annually with students and must be signed and returned by parents/guardians. This signed consent form must be on file before the student is permitted to use the Internet for classroom projects. The policy is also available on the district's Website at: www.redbankvalley.net.

Students at Redbank Valley School District are eligible to receive access to the Internet through the computer network. This network includes connections to computers in the school and throughout the world by way of the Internet. The purpose in providing this service to the students of Redbank Valley is to facilitate learning and teaching through interpersonal communications, access to information, research and collaboration. The Internet offers vast, diverse and unique resources to students.

The use of computer technologies shall be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the school district as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of students. Although the network is filtered to block unwanted content, it is possible that material that

may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting may be available. The district has a filter installed on the network to protect users from viewing unwanted material.

Redbank Valley firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of this district. The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to the following guidelines. The use of computer technologies and the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in cancellation of those privileges and /or disciplinary action as specified in the district discipline policy.

Disclaimer:
The electronic information available to students and staff does not imply endorsement by the district of the content, nor does the district guarantee the accuracy of information received on the Internet. The district shall not be responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged or unavailable when using the network or for any information that is retrieved via the Internet. The district shall not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet. The district reserves the right to log network use and to monitor fileserver space utilization by district users, while respecting the privacy rights of both district users and outside users.

Guidelines:
1. Students shall submit a signed consent form by the parent or guardian to be permitted to gain access to the Internet.
2. Network accounts shall be used only by the authorized owner of the account for its authorized purpose. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property and shall not be disclosed. Network users shall respect the privacy of other users on the system.
3. Redbank Valley reserves the right to monitor usage of computer technology and Internet including but not limited to electronic mail.
4. All use of the Internet, computer equipment, and computer software must be in support of the educational program at Redbank Valley.
5. The Internet, computer equipment, and computer software will not be used for illegal activity, for personal profit, non-school related activities, lobbying, advertising, transmitting or receiving offensive materials, hate mail or discriminating remarks. Using profanity, obscenity, or other media either written or visual that may be considered obscene and/or offensive to other users is strictly forbidden.
6. Users shall not seek information on, obtain copies, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the Redbank Valley network or the Internet.
7. Use of the Internet, computer equipment and computer software for fraudulent or illegal copying, communication, taking or modification of material in violation of law is prohibited and will be referred to appropriate authorities.
8. Loading or use of unauthorized software, games, programs, files, or other electronic media is prohibited. The illegal use of copyrighted software is prohibited. Violation of this rule represents a criminal act under Federal Copyright Law.
9. The network shall not be used to disrupt the work of others; hardware or software shall not be destroyed, modified, or abused in any way.
10. No software is to be installed onto the network by students at any time for any purpose.

Safety & Security

● Students shall not reveal their passwords to another individual.

● Internet or technology users shall not reveal personal addresses or telephone numbers to other users on the Internet or network.

● Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the network.

● To the greatest extent possible, users of the network will be protected from harassment and unwanted or unsolicited communication. Any network user who receives threatening or unwelcome communications immediately shall bring them to the attention of a teacher or administrator.

Consequences for Inappropriate Use

Vandalism will result in cancellation of access privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, Internet or other networks, or any of the agencies that are connected to the Internet backbone. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. The user shall be responsible for damages to the equipment, system, and software resulting from deliberate or willful acts. Illegal use of the network, intentional deletion or damage to files of data belonging to others, copyright violations, and theft of services will be reported to the appropriate legal authorities for possible prosecution.

DISTRICT WEB SITE USE PRIVACY

1. First initial/last name and image may appear on a web site with parent permission.

2. Student work may be posted on the Website with identification of the student's grade level, first initial/last name and/or image.

Students may design web pages as a classroom project. No student pages will be posted until they are approved by the Webmaster liaison. The pages will not be accessible to the outside world unless they follow procedures and meet the standards set by this and other school policies. The following are guidelines to follow for students who create web pages for the district web site.

Guidelines:

1. Copyrights must be respected.

2. All text should be carefully proofread for spelling and grammar.

3. Links and content should be up-to-date. If using time-specific material, school pages must be updated on a regular basis. 4. Web pages must reflect and promote the image of the district and its policies/goals, and provide educational value. 5. The district reserves the right to remove and/or not to post any content from the server(s) that it deems to be legally, morally, or ethically inappropriate, or any page that is not in the best interest of the district.

6. No passwords for posting will be given to students.

7. No pages will be posted to the district web site unless they follow all district guidelines.

8. Identified breaches of this policy will be corrected or pulled as soon as possible.

9. All pages are subject to periodic review.

Redbank Valley School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. Redbank Valley will not be responsible for any damages students suffer as a result of inappropriate usage. This includes the loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or user errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via Redbank Valley is at the user's own risk. Redbank Valley specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through this service. For more information, see Redbank Valley School District Board Policy #816 or the RVSD website.

Chromebook Insurance

Redbank Valley School District students and parents/guardians fully acknowledge that use of district technology on and off the premises of Redbank Valley School District is subject to all guidelines, rules and regulations governing acceptable use as established by the Redbank Valley School District's Board of Education Policy 237.

By accepting a district owned device, parents/guardians are accepting full responsibility for the replacement or repair cost of the device of up to $300 per claim. Replacements and/or repairs will be exclusively executed by Redbank Valley School District. Devices are assigned to the individual student. It is the student's responsibility to maintain control and possession of the device at all times. ANY damaged, lost or stolen devices must be reported immediately to the Building Administration.

The district will offer an optional yearly insurance agreement for student-issued Chromebooks for $25 with the following coverage:

- **Deductible for Claim #1: $0**
- **Deductible for Claim #2: $25 (or actual cost, whichever is less)**
- **Deductible for Claim #3: $50 (or actual cost, whichever is less)**
- **Deductible for Lost/Stolen Power Charger: $35**
- **Deductible for Lost/Stolen Chromebook: $100**

Additional charges for damages in excess of the above coverage will remain the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Payment is due with signed usage agreement. Students wishing to purchase after agreement has been returned must submit their Chromebook for inspection before policy takes effect.

If at any point Redbank Valley School District feels that the terms of this agreement have been violated, loss of privileges to use the device and other disciplinary actions may be taken.

Incidents of damage must be reported to the High School Office the day of the damage. Be prepared to provide the following information when reporting damage:

1. Date of incident
2. Complete details of incident

Theft: Thefts must be immediately reported to the school principal or his/her designee. The District will work with the police department to report all model, asset, and serial numbers of stolen or lost laptops.

The parent/guardian, or adult student will be responsible for compensating the school district for any losses, costs or damages.

Parent Expectations

- Ensure your student understands and adheres to laptop and Internet policies and guidelines set forth in this document.
- Sign a copy of the RVHS Computer Use/Loan Agreement at the end of this document.
- Reimburse the school district for any costs incurred or fines assessed due to intentional misuse, neglect, damage or loss including theft.
- Review with your student the contents of this document in its entirety.

.The student and their parent/guardian agree to follow and accept:

- RVHS Computer Use/Loan Agreement
- That RVSD owns the chromebook, its accessories, software and issued peripherals and that RVHS may search the Device or its contents at any time.
- If the student ceases to be enrolled in RVHS, the Laptop will be inspected and must be in good working order or pay the full replacement cost of the Device($300.00).
- In no event shall RVHS be held liable to any claim of damage,negligence, or breach of duty.
- It is Student/Borrower's responsibility to care for the device and insure that it is kept in a safe environment.
- This Device is, and at all times remains, the property of the RVSD and is loaned to the Student/Borrower for educational purposes only for the academic school year. Student/Borrower may not deface or destroy this property in any way, i.e. modification, etc.
- The school property may be used by Student/Borrower only for non-commercial purposes, in accordance with the District's policies and rules
- The RVSD's network is provided for the academic use of all students and staff.
- The Student/Borrower agrees to take no action that would interfere with the efficient, academic use of the network.
- RVHS does not provide warranties of any kind for the service it is providing.
- RVHS is not responsible for any damages the Student/Borrower may suffer while using the Internet or the Device. This includes loss of data resulting from service interruptions.
- RVHS does not guarantee or endorse the accuracy or quality of information obtained via the Internet. Electronic information available to Student/Borrower does not imply endorsement of the content by the school.
- The Student and/or Parent/Guardian agree upon signing that this is a non-transferable contract. The District shall not be responsible for injuries, damages, penalties, or losses, including legal fees and costs, incurred by the Student and/or Parent/Guardian or other persons due to installation of software, transporting the Device, or any other use described in the Agreement or Handbook.
- The District shall not be made responsible for any unlawful use or security of data transmitted. The Student and Parent/Guardian agree to hold harmless the District for any and all injuries, damages, and loss incurred or related to the use of this device due to the intentional or negligent acts of Student /Borrower or others.

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY, AND DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

The Redbank Valley School District is committed to providing safe, efficient, and orderly transportation for all eligible students. Riding a school bus is a privilege contingent upon student compliance with district transportation rules and expectations.

Transportation Requests and Assignments

1. **Beginning-of-Year Bus Changes**

If a bus change is requested at the beginning of the school year, the parent/guardian must complete a Bussing Request Form. The District will make every effort to implement the change as soon as possible. Until the change is approved and takes effect, the parent/guardian is responsible for providing transportation or making alternate arrangements.

2. **Bus Assignments**

Students will be assigned one morning bus and one afternoon bus for daily transportation. Students are expected to ride only their assigned buses and use their designated bus stops.

The District will not approve requests for students to ride different buses on different days of the week (e.g., one bus on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and another bus on Tuesday and Thursday), except in emergency situations or court-ordered custody arrangements requiring alternate residences during the school week.

3. **Bus Passes**

Due to safety regulations and rider accountability requirements, daily transportation changes will be kept to a minimum. **In extenuating circumstances,** a Bus Pass Request may be submitted for principal approval. Requests to ride home with friends will not be approved. For permanent transportation changes, parents/guardians should contact the Transportation Office.

Kindergarten Student Bus Stops:

A parent/guardian must be present at the designated bus stop to receive kindergarten students unless a written waiver has been approved by the building principal. If no one is at the bus stop, the kindergarten student will be returned to his/her school OR transported to the local police station for parent/guardian pick-up. Parents/guardians may waive this requirement by providing necessary written documentation to the Principal.

Bus Stop Expectations

Students are expected to:

1. Arrive at the bus stop at least five to ten minutes before the scheduled bus arrival time.
2. Wait in a safe location away from the roadway.
3. Demonstrate respectful and appropriate behavior while waiting for the bus.
4. Respect the property of others near the bus stop.
5. Board the bus in an orderly manner without pushing, shoving, or crowding.
6. Cross the roadway only after receiving the driver's signal and ensuring traffic has stopped.

Bus Safety and Conduct Expectations

Students are expected to follow all directions given by the bus driver and maintain behavior consistent with classroom expectations.

Students must:

1. Sit in their assigned seat and remain seated while the bus is in motion.
2. Face forward and keep aisles and emergency exits clear.
3. Keep hands, feet, head, and all objects inside the bus at all times.
4. Use appropriate language and speak in a respectful manner.
5. Keep conversations at a reasonable volume.
6. Treat fellow students, drivers, and monitors with courtesy and respect.
7. Follow all emergency evacuation procedures and cooperate during bus drills.
8. Exit the bus in an orderly manner and proceed directly to their destination.

The following are prohibited on school buses:

- Fighting, threatening, bullying, harassment, or physical aggression.
- Excessive horseplay, pushing, or disruptive behavior.
- Profanity, vulgar, abusive, or derogatory language.
- Eating or drinking on the bus.
- Tampering with emergency exits, safety equipment, or bus controls.

- Opening windows without driver permission.
- Possession of weapons, firearms, flammable materials, illegal substances, or other hazardous items.
- Any behavior that endangers the safety of passengers or the driver.

Students bringing permitted personal items must ensure they do not obstruct aisles, emergency exits, or seating areas.

Responsibility for Damages

Students and parents/guardians are financially responsible for any damage caused to a school bus. Reimbursement may be required before transportation privileges are reinstated.

Extracurricular and Activity Trips

All bus rules and expectations apply during field trips, athletic events, and other school-sponsored activities. Students must also comply with directions provided by coaches, advisors, chaperones, and bus drivers.

Emergency Procedures

Students must remain calm and follow the directions of the bus driver during emergencies or evacuation drills. Students may not leave the bus unless directed to do so by the driver or emergency personnel.

Emergency Contact: If there is ever an emergency with your child on the bus (not arriving home at or within a reasonable amount of time, etc.), please contact your child's school first. Usually, telephones are answered at all buildings from 8:00 am until 4:00 each day. If there is no answer at your child's school, call the transportation office (814-275-2426.) If you are unsuccessful in reaching someone at your child's school or at the transportation office, and you are concerned for your child's safety because he/she has not arrived home, please contact the bus contractor and they will contact the individual drivers.

Barrett Busing, Inc. Emergency Number 814-275-2612

SAFE WALKING ROUTES

The safety of our students remains our highest priority. To help ensure a safe arrival and dismissal each day, Redbank Valley School District is asking families to review safe walking practices with their children and to use the designated pedestrian routes when walking to and from Redbank Valley's 3 campuses (Primary, Intermediate, and High School).

PennDOT's Safe Routes to School initiative encourages schools, families, and communities to work together to provide students with the safest possible routes for walking and bicycling to school. Parents and guardians play an important role in determining whether walking to school is appropriate for their child based on the child's age, maturity, abilities, weather conditions, and current traffic conditions.

When walking to and from school, students should:

- Use designated sidewalks and pedestrian walkways whenever they are available.
- Cross streets only at marked crosswalks or at intersections where crossing is directed by a crossing guard or traffic control device.
- Obey all crossing guards, traffic signals, and pedestrian signs.
- Remain alert by avoiding distractions such as cell phones or headphones while crossing streets.

- Walk directly to and from school and avoid shortcuts through parking lots, private property, or areas without pedestrian access.
- Be especially cautious during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal when vehicle traffic is heaviest.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to:

- Walk the route with younger students before the school year begins.
- Reinforce safe pedestrian behaviors throughout the year.
- Follow all school traffic patterns and parking procedures if driving students to and from school.
- Avoid stopping or dropping students off in undesignated areas that may create unsafe traffic conditions.

Please remember that while the district works closely with local officials to promote safe travel to school, parents and guardians are responsible for determining the most appropriate method of transportation for their child.

You will find these routes at
https://redbankvalley.net/index.php/district/transportation/safe-walking-routes-for-students.html

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students have a responsibility to conduct themselves in school in such a way as to represent appropriate behavior. The following list of responsibilities will be helpful to students in determining appropriate behavior:

- Regular attendance in school is important to success in school.
- Students have a responsibility to know and understand school rules and policies outlined in this
- handbook and to conduct themselves in accord with those rules.
- Students have the responsibility to contribute to making the school climate a safe and comfortable one.
- Students should be willing to volunteer information in matters relating to the health, safety, and welfare of the school community and the protection of school property.
- Students must respect the rights of other students to an education, and not interfere with that right at any time.
- Students must respect the authority of administrators, teachers, and other staff members of the school district.
- Students are encouraged to express their ideas and opinions in a respectful manner so as not to offend or slander others.
- Students are to maintain a high standard of cleanliness. This includes daily bathing and clean inner and outer clothing. All rules of basic hygiene should be observed.
- Students should dress in accordance with the recommended dress guidelines included elsewhere in this handbook.
- Students should comply with all state and local laws.
- Students should exercise careful handling when working with equipment belonging to the school and others.
- Students should make necessary arrangements for make-up work when absent from school.
- Students should assist school staff in operating a safe school for all students enrolled in the school.

HARASSMENT

HARASSMENT POLICY

The Redbank Valley School District does not tolerate harassment of any kind. Harassment by students, employees, or third parties on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, handicap/disability, or for participation in reports or investigations of alleged discrimination is a form of discrimination and is subject to this policy.
A person who is not necessarily an intended victim or target of such harassment but is adversely affected by the offensive conduct may file a report of discrimination on his or her own behalf.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is a form of harassment and is strictly prohibited. Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, inappropriate oral comments, inappropriate written or printed material, or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, continued employment, grade, evaluation, recommendation, or other term or condition of one's employment or education; or
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic or professional performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

Sexual harassment may include but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal harassment or abuse, including sexual jokes, name calling, or sexual rumors
- Pressure for sexual activities
- Remarks with sexual or demeaning implications
- Unwelcome touching or pulling of clothing
- Pictures, messages, or materials of a sexual nature
- Suggesting or demanding sexual involvement accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, job, or evaluation
- Sexual misconduct communicated through electronic devices, social media, or other digital platforms

Burden of Proof

The Redbank Valley School District uses the preponderance of the evidence standard in determining whether a violation of this harassment policy has occurred, consistent with District Board Policy and applicable federal regulations (34 C.F.R. §106.45).

Reporting

A student or third party who believes he or she has been subject to conduct by any student, employee, or third party that constitutes a violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report the incident to the building principal or Compliance Officer. Reports may also be directed to the school guidance counselor. If the building principal is the subject of the complaint, the report shall be made directly to the Superintendent. If the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the report shall be made to the Board of School Directors.
The complainant or reporting employee shall be encouraged to use the district's report form, available from the building principal or Compliance Officer, or to put the complaint in writing. However, oral complaints shall be accepted, documented, and the procedures of this policy implemented. The person

accepting the verbal or written complaint may provide factual information on the complaint and the investigative process, the impact of choosing to seek confidentiality, and the right to file criminal charges. In all other respects, the person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally, and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the complainant or those accused of a violation of this policy.

No student or staff member shall suffer retaliation or retribution for truthfully reporting any act of harassment. A false report made in bad faith shall be subject to discipline, including but not limited to criminal sanctions as defined by the Pennsylvania Crimes Code and civil penalties as defined by Pennsylvania tort law.

Investigation

Upon receipt of a report, the district will conduct a prompt, thorough, and impartial investigation. The investigation shall comply with the following:

- The School Solicitor shall be immediately consulted
- ·All parties and cooperating witnesses will be interviewed and statements secured
- When possible, a second administrator will be included in all interviews
- The investigator shall provide an atmosphere designed to make the victim comfortable, including

permitting a parent or trusted person to attend interviews

- All allegations will be heard and thoroughly investigated
- Parents will be notified when appropriate
- Law enforcement will be notified when appropriate
- The accused will be informed of his or her rights to counsel, including union or association representation
- A complete investigation will proceed even if the victim recants his or her statement
- Every step of this procedure shall be documented in detail

The investigator shall inform the School Board on a regular basis regarding the progress of the investigation, although said information need not include proper names.

Disciplinary Consequences

Any student found to have engaged in harassment will be subject to disciplinary action consistent with the Redbank Valley School District Code of Student Conduct, up to and including expulsion. Staff members found to have engaged in harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

Copies of this policy can be made available upon request from the building principal or District Office.

HAZING POLICY

The Redbank Valley School District expressly prohibits hazing in any form by any student, group, organization, team, or club associated with the district. This policy applies to all school buildings, school grounds, school vehicles, school-sponsored activities, and any activity occurring off school property that is connected to a school organization, team, club, or group.

Definition

Hazing occurs when a person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly, for the purpose of initiating, admitting, or affiliating a student with an organization, or for the purpose of continuing or enhancing membership or status in an organization, causes, coerces, or forces a student to do any of the following:

1. Violate federal or state criminal law.
2. Consume any food, liquid, alcoholic liquid, drug, or other substance which subjects the student to a risk of emotional or physical harm.
3. Endure brutality of a physical nature, including whipping, beating, branding, calisthenics, or exposure to the elements.
4. Endure brutality of a mental nature, including activity adversely affecting the mental health or dignity of the individual, sleep deprivation, exclusion from social contact, or conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment.
5. Endure brutality of a sexual nature.
6. Endure any other activity that creates a reasonable likelihood of bodily injury to the student.

Aggravated Hazing occurs when a person commits an act of hazing that results in serious bodily injury or death to a student and:

- The person acts with reckless indifference to the health and safety of the student; or
- The person causes, coerces, or forces the consumption of an alcoholic liquid or drug by the student

Organizational Hazing occurs when an organization intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly promotes or facilitates hazing or aggravated hazing.

Important Note on Consent

A student's consent to hazing does not excuse or justify the conduct. Any activity described above shall be deemed a violation of this policy regardless of whether the student consented or whether the conduct was sanctioned or approved by the school or organization.

Reporting

A student who believes that he or she has been subject to hazing is encouraged to promptly report the incident to the building principal or designee. Students are encouraged to put the complaint in writing; however, oral complaints shall be accepted and documented. The person accepting the complaint shall handle the report objectively, neutrally, and professionally, setting aside personal biases that might favor or disfavor the student filing the complaint or those accused of a violation of this policy.

Staff members who receive a report of hazing are obligated to report it immediately to building administration. No student or staff member shall be retaliated against for reporting hazing in good faith. Retaliation against a reporter will itself result in disciplinary action.

Disciplinary Consequences

Hazing is a Level IV violation under the Redbank Valley School District Code of Student Conduct and will result in the following:

- Immediate out-of-school suspension of up to 10 days
- Mandatory parent/guardian conference before return to school
- Mandatory referral to the Student Assistance Program (SAP)
- No participation in extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year
- Possible recommendation for expulsion through Board action
- Notification of law enforcement when appropriate

Students involved in organizational hazing may also face suspension or dissolution of the involved club, team, or organization at the discretion of the building principal and Superintendent.

BULLYING

Redbank Valley School District is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and positive learning environment for all students. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Bullying is intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical behavior directed at a student or group of students that involves a real or perceived imbalance of power and is severe, persistent, or pervasive enough to:

- Interfere with a student's education;
- Create an intimidating, threatening, or hostile environment; or
- Substantially disrupt the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying includes cyberbullying and may involve behaviors such as making threats, spreading rumors, physical or verbal aggression, or intentionally excluding others. The District recognizes that isolated conflicts or "mean moments" do not necessarily constitute bullying. **Bullying behavior is repeated over time. It is not a singular occurrence.**

This policy applies to conduct occurring in school, on school property, school transportation, at bus stops, during school-sponsored activities, and to off-campus behavior, including cyberbullying, when it substantially impacts the school environment or a student's educational experience.

Students, parents/guardians, and staff are encouraged to report suspected bullying to any school employee as soon as possible. All reports will be investigated promptly, thoroughly, and confidentially to the extent possible. Confirmed incidents of bullying will result in appropriate disciplinary action and/or interventions in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Retaliation against any individual who reports bullying or participates in an investigation is strictly prohibited.

STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING

The Redbank Valley School District recognizes that student dress and grooming are primarily the responsibility of students and their parents/guardians. The purpose of the dress code is to maintain a safe, respectful, and productive learning environment while allowing students reasonable freedom in personal appearance. Because fashions change quickly and unpredictably, it is impossible to list every acceptable and unacceptable form of dress. Therefore, the building principal or designee reserves the right to determine whether a student's attire, grooming, accessories, or appearance meet school expectations.

General Expectations

Students must wear clothing that:

1. Includes a top, bottom, and footwear at all times.
2. Is appropriately sized and worn as designed.
3. Covers private body areas and undergarments at all times.
4. Does not create a health or safety hazard.
5. Does not substantially disrupt the educational process.

Clothing Requirements

1. Shirts must fully cover the chest, back, sides, and midriff without being held in place.
2. Tank tops and sleeveless shirts are permitted provided they have shoulder straps that are at least

two inches wide and adequately cover the body. Halter tops, tube tops, mesh shirts, shirts with open sides, and excessively revealing tops are prohibited.

3. Shorts, skirts, dresses, and similar garments must be of appropriate length. As a general guideline,
garments should extend to at least fingertip length when the student is standing naturally with arms at their sides.
4. Pants, shorts, skirts, and dresses may not expose undergarments or private body areas. Pants must
be worn at the waist.
5. Clothing with holes, tears, or distressing is permitted provided no skin is exposed above the
6. fingertip-length guideline. Leggings or other appropriate fabric may be worn underneath to maintain coverage.
7. Spandex garments, compression wear, exercise shorts, and yoga pants may only be worn when they provide appropriate coverage and are not excessively tight or revealing.
8. Pajamas, slippers, blankets, and other sleepwear are not permitted unless approved for a school-sponsored activity.

Prohibited Clothing and Accessories

Students may not wear clothing, jewelry, accessories, or display messages that:

1. Promote or depict alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, illegal drugs, weapons, violence, gang affiliation, or illegal activity.
2. Contain vulgar, obscene, sexually suggestive, discriminatory, or offensive language, images, or symbols.
3. Create a disruption to the educational environment.
4. Include chains, spikes, metal studs, or other items that may present a safety concern.

Headwear and Outerwear

1. Hats, hoods, bandanas, sweatbands, head coverings, blankets, and non-prescription sunglasses may not be worn during the school day unless approved for religious, medical, educational, or school-sponsored purposes.
2. Students must remove hats and headwear upon entering the building and store them in their locker or designated area.
3. Heavy coats, trench coats, and winter outerwear are not to be worn during the school day. Students may wear sweaters, sweatshirts, or hooded sweatshirts provided the hood remains down while inside the building.

Footwear

1. Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times.
2. Footwear that damages school property or creates a safety hazard is prohibited.
3. Shoes with wheels are prohibited.
4. Teachers may require specific footwear for participation in science labs, shop classes, physical education, or other activities where safety considerations apply.

Piercings and Grooming

1. Visible piercings must not create a safety hazard or disruption to the educational environment.
2. Facial piercings, spacers, gauges, septum jewelry, or other body jewelry that present a safety concern may be prohibited at the discretion of the administration.
3. Any grooming practice that substantially disrupts the educational process or creates a safety concern may be addressed by administration.

Special Events
Dress code requirements may be modified for spirit days, special events, field trips, performances, athletic activities, or other school-sponsored programs. Students and families will be notified of approved exceptions.

Enforcement and Consequences

Elementary - Violations handled within the Disciple Code
High School violation result in the following:
1st offense – Written warning (teacher submits through Synergy). Student corrects dress code violation OR student is assigned In-School Suspension.
2nd offense – One hour detention and student corrects dress code violation or student is assigned In-School Suspension.
3rd offense – Two hour detention and student corrects dress code violation or student is assigned In-School Suspension.
Subsequent dress code violations will result in Out of-School Suspension
Dress code violators will remain in In-School suspension until the dress code violation has been corrected. Clothing may either be brought in by a parent/guardian or obtained from the school's clothing closet. Students will not be allowed to continue their school day when in violation of the dress code. Their missed class will be unexcused. Refusal to comply with the dress code will be considered as insubordination – Level III, and will result in additional disciplinary action.

CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOR

The Board of Education shall require each student of this district to adhere to the rules and regulations promulgated by the board and administration and to submit to such disciplinary measures as are appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. The rules govern the student conduct in school, during the time spent in travel to and from school, during school field trips, and while participating in school activities. Such rules shall require that students:

- Conform to reasonable standards of socially acceptable behavior;
- Respect the rights, person and property of others;
- Preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged; and
- Obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.

It is understood that common sense and reason should prevail when school personnel responds to a student discipline violation.

When a student violates the Code of Student Behavior, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified by e-mail, mail, and/or telephone. All violations will be kept in a file and can result in documentation toward future Board Action. The Superintendent, or his designee (principal), holds the right to review each violation and make decisions on an individual basis that may differ from the listed consequences.
It is understood that common sense and reason should prevail when a disciplinary response is utilized by school personnel. The teachers and administrators will take under consideration the type of and manner of discipline according to age-appropriateness. The superintendent or his designee (principal) has the authority to use discretion in the application of this policy to

situations that have unusual circumstances. This may include alternative consequences of a reasonable nature.

At the Principal's discretion, restorative practices may also be implemented. The Board approves the implementation of restorative practices in the Code of Student Conduct to address violations where applicable. Restorative practices focus on cultivating a positive, respectful and inclusive school environment by shifting from punishment to reflective learning, raising student awareness of how their actions caused a problematic situation and conflict resolution through communication.

Level I Violations (include but not limited to): **Handled by classroom teachers**

1. Class, Hall or Cafeteria disruptions.
2. Throwing objects.
3. Tardiness to class or assigned area (except for homeroom; which is tardy to school).
4. Outside assigned area before, during and after school.
5. Violating school safety within our unauthorized entrances without approval or supervision
6. Locker violation.
7. Inappropriate displays of affection (at the discretion of administration).
8. Dress code violation. (See Dress and Grooming)

High School Discipline:			
1st Offense	**2nd Offense**	**3rd Offense**	
Student assigned one-hour after school detention.	Student assigned two-hours of detention	Student assigned one to three days of ISS or OSS	
Primary and Intermediate School Discipline:			
1st Offense	**2nd Offense**	**3rd Offense**	**4th Offense**
Student/ Teacher conference/warning	Parent contact by Teacher and Teacher assigns consequences	Parent/Teacher conference either in person or by phone	Principal assigns a Structured Day along with a 1 hour detention with accountability project

Level II Violations (include but not limited to):

1. Cutting class. (Two hours detention per class period cut.)
2. Disrespect toward staff.
3. Forgery of parent/guardian signatures
4. Lying/Cheating/Plagiarism (Students will receive a zero on that assignment)
5. Unacceptable written or oral language, gestures, or actions.
6. Defacing school property (Note: Defacing school property includes writing on walls, desks, computers, lockers, other school property, etc., that can be removed by routine cleaning.)
7. Parking / driving violations / non-registered student drivers (See Parking and Driving rules).
8. Tampering with the emergency call system to the office.
9. Cutting after-school detention. (Student must make-up missed detention.)
10. Gambling /Betting
11. Tampering/unauthorized use of computers, computer equipment and software.
12. Violation of the chromebook, or other electronics, usage policy.

High School Discipline:		
1st Offense	**2nd Offense**	**3rd Offense**
Student assigned a two hour detention. No activities on the day(s) of the detention(s)	Student assigned one-day ISS or OSS.	Student assigned one to three-day ISS or OSS.

Primary and Intermediate School Discipline:			
1st Offense	**2nd Offense**	**3rd Offense**	**4th Offense**
Parent contact by teacher, warning by Principal	Parent contact by teacher, Principal assigns a Structured Day along with a 1 hour detention with accountability project, Referral to	Parent contact by teacher, Principal assigns a Structured Day along with a 1 hour detention with accountability project along with the loss of	Parent contact by Teacher and Principal, Principal assigns 1 day of in-school suspension

	Counselor, Child Study Team, or SAP team for review	a privilege at the Principal's discretion	

NOTES:

- Students are not permitted to participate or attend extra-curricular activities effective immediately and until the ISS or OSS is completed, including the day(s) of ISS or OSS.
- After a student has accumulated a total of three Level II violations, future violations will be dealt with as Level III violations.

Level III Violations (include but not limited to):

1. Bullying (repeated teasing, tormenting, written, verbal, or third party.) See also bullying policy.
2. Leaving school grounds without administrative approval.
3. Truancy (verified skipping of school day).
4. Stealing/Possession of stolen property. (NOTE: Students found guilty of stealing will be required to make complete restitution.)
5. Possession of tobacco products and tobacco look-alikes, vaping products and paraphernalia. (NOTE: PA Act 168 of 1988 School Tobacco Control Act prohibits tobacco use by students in buildings, grounds, buses, school activities, enroute to and from school.)
6. Insubordination/Defiance of Authority.
7. Inappropriate computer, or other technology, usage.
8. Student threats that would cause physical, mental or emotional harm to another/Student fighting (attempt to injure another).
9. Destruction of property (vandalism). (NOTE: Destruction of property includes any damage that cannot be removed by routine cleaning; for example, carving or scoring into materials, etc.) At the student's expense, the property will be restored to its original condition/appearance or replaced. This includes school and student property.
10. Verbal assault on a staff member. (NOTE: Verbal assault includes swearing, threats and related infractions.)
11. Videoing a fight on school property.
12. Indecent exposure;
13. Harassment/Sexual Harassment - defined as annoying or harming another person by:

a. striking, shoving, kicking, or making physical contact of a threatening nature;
b. following a person about in a less than friendly manner;
c. engaging in conduct that alarms or seriously annoys another; and
d. sexual harassment (this includes physical, verbal, or written actions).
e. social media threats that affect the learning environment at school.

High School Discipline:		
1st Offense	**2nd Offense**	**3rd Offense**

Student assigned one to three-days ISS or OSS. No after school activities on the days of OSS.	Student assigned three to five-days ISS or OSS (out of school suspension) No activities for two weeks.	Student assigned six to ten-days OSS. No activities for four weeks.

Primary and Intermediate School Discipline:

1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense
Parent contact by teacher, Principal assigns a Structured Day along with a 1 hour detention with accountability project, in-school suspension, or out of school suspension at Principal's discretion, Referral to Counselor, Child Study Team, or SAP team for review	Parent contact by Teacher, Principal assigns 2 days in-school suspension, or out of school suspension	Parent contact by Teacher and Principal, Principal assigns 3 days in-school suspension, or out of school suspension	Parent contact by Teacher and Principal, Disciplinary action taken to Level 4

Possession of tobacco products and tobacco look-alikes, vaping products and paraphernalia:

1st Offense:

- Student assigned 3 days OSS
- Student assigned to the Breathe Program and will be responsible for a $75.00 program fee
- Referral to S.A.P.
- 30 Days suspension from all extra-curricular activities

2nd Offense/ 3rd Offense:

- Student assigned 3 to 5 days OSS
- Student assigned to the Breathe Program and will be responsible for a $75.00 program fee
- Referral to S.A.P.
- Suspension from all extra-curricular activities for a full calendar year and/or additional calendar year.
- Referral to the Magistrate

NOTES:

- Students are not permitted to participate or attend extra-curricular activities on any district campus effective immediately and for the duration indicated, including all the days of ISS, OSS, or alternative placement.
- A mandatory conference must be held prior to the student returning to his/her regular classes.
- When a student is suspended from school, that student loses all privileges during the time he/she is suspended, this includes all school buildings, school grounds, school buses, school activities, the Career Center, and all activities under the control or direction of school personnel whether on or off school property.
- After a student has accumulated a total of three Level III violations, future violations will be dealt with as Level IV violations.
- The Police may be involved immediately on any Level III violation.
- Mandatory referral to S.A.P. team for review. (See Student Assistance Program)

Level IV Violations (include but not limited to):

These violations include school buildings, grounds, school activities on any of the three district campuses (Primary, Intermediate, High School), transportation to and from school, as well as all activities under the control or direction of school personnel whether they occur on or off of school property. **Each Level IV violation will result in documentation in the student's file toward Board Action.**

1. Under the influence or in possession of alcohol, or under the influence or in possession of illegal or prescription drugs, controlled substances or any related paraphernalia or vaping products.
2. Use of tobacco products and tobacco look-alikes, vaping products and paraphernalia. (NOTE: PA Act 168 of 1988 School Tobacco Control Act prohibits tobacco use by students in buildings, grounds, buses, school activities, enroute to and from school.)
3. Distribution/sale of drugs, alcohol or look-alikes.
4. Possession of and/or use of lethal weapons or look-alikes or ammunition/casings.
5. Physical assault on staff members.
6. Possession of pornographic material.
7. Extortion.
8. Arson.
9. Tampering with fire-fighting systems and/or alarms.
10. Terroristic threats.
11. Reckless endangerment (Reckless endangerment includes any actions that could seriously injure another person, whether intentional or not.)
12. Fireworks (Fireworks resulting in bodily harm will be considered reckless endangerment)
13. Written or verbal bomb threats.
14. Stealing/possession of stolen property in excess of $50.
15. Involvement in the act of hazing as part of any school activity/club/sport.

Primary, Intermediate and High School Discipline
All Offenses

Student will be assigned a 3-day Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) with an informal hearing. Following the hearing, the suspension may be increased to a total of up to 10 days OSS.

When a student is suspended from school, that student loses all privileges during the time he/she is suspended, this includes all school buildings, school grounds, school buses, school activities, the Career Center, and all activities under the control or direction of school personnel whether on or off school property.

- Mandatory referral to S.A.P. team
- No activities for the remainder of the current sports season.
- Police Notification at the discretion of administration.

Use of tobacco products and tobacco look-alikes, vaping products and paraphernalia:
1st Offense:

- Student will be assigned a 3-day Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), with an informal hearing. Following the hearing, the suspension may be increased to a total of up to 10 days OSS.
- Student assigned to the Breathe Program and will be responsible for a $75.00 program fee
- Referral to S.A.P.
- Referral to the Magistrate

2nd Offense/ 3rd Offense:

- Student will be assigned a 3-day Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), with an informal hearing. Following the hearing, the suspension may be increased to a total of up to 10 days OSS.
- Student assigned to the Breathe Program and will be responsible for a $75.00 program fee
- Referral to S.A.P.
- Suspension from all extra-curricular activities for a full calendar year and/or additional calendar year.
- Referral to the Magistrate

NOTES:

At the Principal's discretion, the following additional disciplinary action may take place:

- Alternative School Placement which will include exclusion from all extra-curricular activities for the duration of the placement.
- Probationary contract upon return to school.
- Referral to school board for expulsion purposes.

Redbank Valley School District has a ZERO tolerance policy pertaining to drugs, alcohol, and weapons.

DISTRICT BUS CONDUCT VIOLATIONS			
Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**
To include, but not limited to….	*To include, but not limited to….*	*To include, but not limited to….*	*To include, but not limited to….*
Failure to sit in assigned seat	Persistent Level 1 violations	Persistent Level 2 violations	Persistent Level 3 violations
Eating or drinking	Throwing items inside or outside the bus or at others	Obscene gestures, profanity	Sexual harassment
Improper boarding - not going directly to assigned seat	Being disrespectful to the driver (language, gestures, body contact, failing to follow driver's instructions/requests)	Destruction of property, i.e. graffiti, tears, punctures. This may result in bus suspension until restitution is made.	Inappropriate physical contact
Failure to follow safety procedures while on the bus	Spitting inside or outside the bus or at others	Disruption of transportation	Indecent exposure
Pushing or tripping another student	Spraying any non-hazardous materials (perfume, hairspray, cologne, etc.)	Fighting or physical assault	Possession of weapon
Aiding or accessory to misconduct on the bus, horseplay, failure to remain seated while bus is in motion	Spraying or squirting water inside or outside of the bus or at others	Stealing, theft of items from another student	Possession of hazardous materials
Throwing trash on the floor	Tampering with any bus equipment (emergency exits, windows, fire extinguisher, etc.)	Making a false report of an incident to the school or to the bus driver	Threat or assault of a driver
Standing or walking when the bus is in motion	Excessive noise	Possession or use of tobacco, lighter, e-cigarettes, vaping paraphernalia, fireworks, etc.	Malicious behavior with intent to cause harm
	Teasing / tormenting another student	Inappropriate use of cell phone including recording/photographing	Possession or use of alcohol, drugs, or other illegal substances

CONSEQUENCES FOR BUS CONDUCT VIOLATIONS				
	Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Level 4**
1st Offense	**Student warning; Parent notified by Conduct Report**	**After School Detention**	**Up to 5 days bus suspension**	**Up to 15 days bus suspension**
2nd Offense	**Loss of recess or after school detention**	**Up to 5 days bus suspension**	**Up to 10 days bus suspension**	**Up to 30 days bus suspension**
3rd Offense	**After school detention**	**Up to 10 days bus suspension**	**Up to 15 days bus suspension**	**Bus suspension for remainder of school year**
4th+ Offense	**Up to 3 day bus suspension**	**Up to 15 days bus suspension and loss of field trip**	**Bus suspension for remainder of school year and loss of field trip**	**Permanent bus suspension and loss of field trip**

CAFETERIA CONDUCT VIOLATIONS		
Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**
To include, but not limited to….	*To include, but not limited to….*	*To include, but not limited to….*
Failure to stay in seat	Disrespect toward cafeteria staff	Throwing food
Running / Pushing	Leaving the cafeteria without permission	Fighting / Hitting / Kicking
Teasing	Yelling / Excessive noise	Excessive Level 2 violations
Popping bags	Taking / touching other students' food	
	Pounding on the tables	
	Creating a mess – smashing food/milk cartons	
	Excessive Level 1 violations	

CONSEQUENCES FOR CAFETERIA CONDUCT VIOLATIONS				
		Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**
1st Offense	**Primary and Intermediate**	**Student warning**	**Student warning**	**One hour in school detention**
	High School	**Student warning**	**Lunch Detention**	**1 hr detention or consequence from the code of student behavior**
2nd Offense		**Student warning**	**Loss of recess**	**One hour after school detention**
	High School	**Lunch Detention**	**1 hr detention**	**2 hr detention or consequence from the code of student behavior**
3rd Offense		**Loss of recess**	**Lunch detention**	**One hour after school detention**
	High School	**1 hr detention**	**2 hr detention**	**1 day of ISS or consequence from**

				the code of student behavior
4th+ Offense		**Lunch detention**	**One hour after school detention**	**One day in school suspension**
	High School	**2 hr detention**	**1 day of ISS/OSS**	**3 days of ISS/OSS or consequence from the code of student behavior**

REDBANK VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL SPECIFIC:

REGULAR BELL SCHEDULE

Time	**Schedule**
7:30	Teacher Arrival
7:30-7:45	Student Arrival/ Report to Cafeteria (Breakfast offered 7:35-7:55)
7:45-7:55	Report to Homeroom
7:55-8:03	Homeroom/ Announcements (8)
8:06-8:48	Period 1(42)/ Career Center Depart @ 8:35am, Return at 11:45am
8:51-9:33	Period 2 (42)
9:36-10:18	Period 3 (42)
10:21-11:03	Period 4 (42)

A Lunch		**B Lunch**		**C Lunch**	
11:06-11:36	Period 5 **Lunch**	**11:06-11:48**	Period 5	**11:06-11:48**	Period 5
11:39-12:21	Period 6	**11:51-12:21**	Period 6 **Lunch**	**11:51-12:33**	Period 6

12:24-1:06	Period 7	**12:24-1:06**	Period 7	**12:36-1:06**	Period 7 **Lunch**
1:09-1:51		Period 8 (42)			
1:54-2:36		Period 9 (42)			
2:39-3:07		WIN Period (28)			
3:07		Student Dismissal			
3:15		Teacher Dismissal			

2-HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE

Career Center students will still attend the Career Center

Time	**Schedule**
9:30	Teacher Arrival
9:30-9:45	Student Arrival/ Report to Cafeteria (Breakfast offered 9:35-9:55)
9:45-9:55	Report to Homeroom
9:55-10:03	Homeroom/ Announcements (8) Career Center students dismissed at 10:03am
10:06-10:36	Period 1(30)
10:39-11:09	Period 2 (30)
11:12-11:42	Period 3 (30)

A Lunch		**B Lunch**		**C Lunch**	
11:45-12:15	Period 5 **Lunch**	**11:45-12:15**	Period 5	**11:45-12:15**	Period 5 CC in SH 12:05
12:18-12:48	Period 6	**12:18-12:48**	Period 6 **Lunch**	**12:18-12:48**	Period 6
12:51-1:21	Period 7	**12:51-1:21**	Period 7	**12:51-1:21**	Period 7 **Lunch**

1:24-1:54	Period 4 (30) Career Center students in SH
1:57-2:27	Period 8 (30)
2:30-3:00	Period 9 (30)
3:03-3:07	Homeroom (4)
3:07	Student Dismissal
3:15	Teacher Dismissal

EARLY DISMISSAL / FLEXIBLE BELL SCHEDULE

Career Center students will still attend the Career Center and will dismiss there at 11am.

Time	**Schedule**
7:30	Teacher Arrival
7:30-7:45	Student Arrival/ Report to Cafeteria (Breakfast offered 7:35-7:55)
7:45-7:55	Report to Homeroom
7:55-8:03	Homeroom/ Announcements (8)
8:06-8:26	Period 1(20)/ Career Center departure, return at 11:30am
8:29-8:49	Period 2 (20)
8:52-9:12	Period 3 (20)
9:15-9:35	Period 4 (20)
9:38-9:58	Period 8 (20)
10:01-10:21	Period 9 (20)

A Lunch		**B Lunch**		**C Lunch**	
10:24-10:54	Period 5 **Lunch**	**10:24-10:54**	Period 5	**10:24-10:54**	Period 5

10:58-11:28	Period 6	**10:58-11:28**	Period 6 **Lunch**	**10:58-11:28**	Period 6
11:32-12:02	Period 7	**11:32-12:02**	Period 7	**11:32-12:02**	Period 7 **Lunch**
12:06-12:15		Homeroom (9)			
12:15		Student Dismissal			
12:30		Teacher Dismissal			

TARDINESS TO CLASS

The following guidelines will govern students who are tardy to class:

1. No late passes between classes will be issued by the Main or Guidance Office.
2. If a student is late to class without a written excuse, the teacher will record the lateness and report the infraction in Synergy according to the disciplinary code.
3. Any student detained in the office or by a teacher should ask for an excuse from the person detaining the student before going to class. Such tardiness should be marked excused and should not count against the student.
4. Repeated tardiness will result in penalties as described in the disciplinary code and may include legal action (fines) being taken.

DROP/ADD GUIDELINES

The scheduling of classes for the upcoming year generally begins at the beginning of the second semester. Students have an opportunity to meet with their Counselor on an individual basis and plan an appropriate schedule of classes based upon State and District guidelines, and individual needs. We urge all students to discuss course selections with their current teachers.

Students having conflicts will be able to request changes during designated summer days. These will be considered by administration and guidance. All changes must have their request phoned in by or signed by a parent.

The administration reserves the right to make schedule changes deemed to be in the best interest of the student(s), to meet graduation requirements, or as an attempt to balance class sizes. Due to the number of electives offered at the High School, some classes will be offered one time during the school day. Not all schedule requests are guaranteed.

Classes will not be changed to accommodate requests to be in specific periods or rooms, with friends, to be instructed by a specific teacher, or to change lunch periods.

The following are valid reasons for schedule changes:

1. Approved and choosing to go to the Career Center.
2. Choosing to return from the Career Center to the home school.
3. Choosing an academic course in lieu of an applied course (if available)

4. Student has more than seven classes per day scheduled and needs a study hall. (Senior High ONLY.)
5. The Guidance Office has chosen a class that the student did not pick. *This would apply only if the student returned a schedule request signed by the parent by the established deadline and credits are needed towards graduation requirements with no other options.*

Requests to drop/add a course must be completed during the designated summer course change window.

Any change beyond the first week of school will be recorded on the final transcript as <u>Drop/Fail</u>.

CAREER/TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Clarion County Career Center (CCCC) offers programs in eight (8) different career areas to students from seven (7) area sending schools. Students who choose to enroll in a CCCC program will attend during an AM or PM session (lasting approximately 2.5 hours). The remainder of their day involves completing their core academic courses of study at their respective sending school. Programs are designed to be three years in length, beginning in the 10th grade. However, 11th and 12th grade students may also begin a program, and would be encouraged to do so, if this would assist them in reaching their career or educational goals. There are many opportunities for students enrolled in a CCCC program. All programs prepare students for immediate employment, or post-secondary education program options. Senior students who demonstrate a high level of competency in their program, can participate in a cooperative education experience with an area employer. Furthermore, SOAR and local articulation agreements with some post-secondary institutions can provide students with advanced credits or placement. Lastly, CCCC students have the opportunity to earn industry recognized certificates, or licenses, through examinations or certification testing programs.

Students wishing to attend the Career Center must pass all required subjects during the previous school year. Career Center students failing a required course must successfully complete the course prior to the beginning of the next school year through independent credit recovery which must be approved through the Guidance Office or principal.

CAREER CENTER REQUIREMENTS

Enrollment in the Career Center is a privilege and is contingent upon maintaining satisfactory academic performance, attendance, and behavior. Students must follow the required course sequence, and any failed courses must be recovered prior to the start of the next school year to remain on track for graduation. Continued enrollment is dependent upon successful completion of credits at Redbank Valley.

Students may lose Career Center placement for excessive disciplinary referrals (5 or more Level 2 incidents) or excessive unexcused absences (10 or more days). Enrollment may be revoked at any time based on academic, attendance, or disciplinary concerns.

<u>Grade 9:</u>		Phys Ed	½
English	1	Elective	1.5
Math	1	**TOTAL**	**6.5**
Science	1	**<u>Grade 10:</u>**	
Social Studies	1	English	1

Math	1
Science	1
Phys Ed	½
Ecology	½
CCCC	3.5
TOTAL	**7.5**

Grade 11:

English	1
Math	1
Social Studies	1
Phys Ed	½
Health 11	½
CCCC	3.5
TOTAL	**7.5**

Grade 12:

English	1
Science	1
Social Studies	1
Phys Ed	½
CCCC	3.5
TOTAL	**7**

CAREER CENTER TRANSPORTATION

The bus transporting the Clarion County Career Center students to the area career center will leave the high school at 8:25 a.m. The buses will load from the gym area doors.

It is the policy of Redbank Valley School District and the Clarion County Career Center that students attending the Clarion County Career Center will be transported by bus to and from the Clarion County Career Center unless those students have received written permission from the Career Center principal and our principal to drive. Parents/guardians will be given notification of behavior problems of students riding the Career Center bus. Discipline offenses may result in suspension from the bus, resulting in the student bearing the responsibility of their transportation to the Career Center.

ADVANCED CREDIT/HONOR COURSES

Students in grades 6-8 with gifted identification may take senior high courses prior to their 9th grade year. These courses will count towards credit accumulation and their senior high GPA accumulation.

The following courses are weighted in value. Unlike a traditional course (worth a QPA of 4.0) these courses are worth more towards the final grade point average.

WEIGHTED / COLLEGE IN HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

(1) = 5.0 quality points

(2) = 5.1 quality points

Math

Aca. Problem Solving/Prob. and Stats (1)
Academic Calculus (1)
Academic Trig/Pre-Calc (1)
AP Statistics (2)

Science

Academic Chemistry 2 and Lab (1)
Academic Organic Chemistry (1)
Academic Biology 2 and Lab (1)
Academic Biology 2B (1)
Aca. Anatomy and Physiology and Lab (1)
Academic Physics 2 and Lab (1)

English

Honors English 11 (1)
AP English Literature & Composition (2)

Foreign Languages

Spanish III (1)
Spanish IV (1)

AP Government & Politics/Economics(2)
Honors U.S. History 10 (1)

History

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Recognition and membership into the National Honor Society may be granted to students in grades 10, 11 and 12. Criteria for the National Honor Society is a 3.5 or higher GPA at the end of the second nine weeks. Any senior with a GPA of 4.0 or higher at the end of the fourth nine weeks will be awarded a High Honors medal at graduation ceremony. Any senior with a GPA of 3.5 to 3.99 at the end of the fourth nine weeks will be awarded an Honors medal at the Commencement Ceremony.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Redbank Valley High School collaborates with PennWest University and Indiana University of PA to offer Dual Enrollment programs for eligible students. These programs allow qualified high school students to enroll in college-level courses while completing their high school education.

Eligibility

- Dual enrollment is open to students in grades 11 and 12.
- 10th-grade students may be eligible on a conditional basis, as determined by PennWest University Admissions.
- Students should maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 to be considered. Students who fall below this threshold may still be eligible based on a holistic review by PennWest.

Academic Credit

- College credits earned through dual enrollment may be applied toward high school graduation requirements if the course is transfer-appropriate and approved in advance by the Redbank Valley LEA. Approved dual enrollment credits will be documented on the student's high school transcript if a transfer request is accepted.
- College credit will be displayed on a student's official college transcript issued by PennWest University.

Course Information

- Dual enrollment courses are available during the fall, spring, and summer semesters.
- Students may enroll in unlimited courses per term, depending on PennWest's policies and student readiness.
- All courses are taught by qualified PennWest University faculty and follow university-level expectations.

Costs and Support

- All costs associated with dual enrollment (tuition, fees, books, etc.) are the responsibility of the student and their family.
- Redbank Valley High School will provide application support and assist with high school credit approval.

- All academic and instructional support is provided directly through PennWest University.

Student Responsibility

- Students are expected to meet all university deadlines and course requirements.
- Students and families should communicate with the school counselor prior to enrollment to ensure proper planning and credit approval.

COLLEGE IN HIGH SCHOOL

College in the high school allows students to earn both **high school** and **college credits** by passing the approved class(es). This is optional for each student and costs for the college credit is covered by the student/family.

Mount Aloysius College Approved Courses:

- AP English Literature and Composition (2)
- Academic Biology 2 and Lab (1)
- Academic Chemistry 2 and Lab (1)
- AP Government & Politics/Economics (2)
- Acad. Anatomy and Physiology & Lab (1)
- Holocaust Studies (1)
- AP Statistics (2)

Seton Hill University Approved Courses:

- TBD

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A total of 25 credits are required for graduation from Redbank Valley School District. These credits must be earned in grades 9, 10, 11 & 12 and in the following curriculum areas:

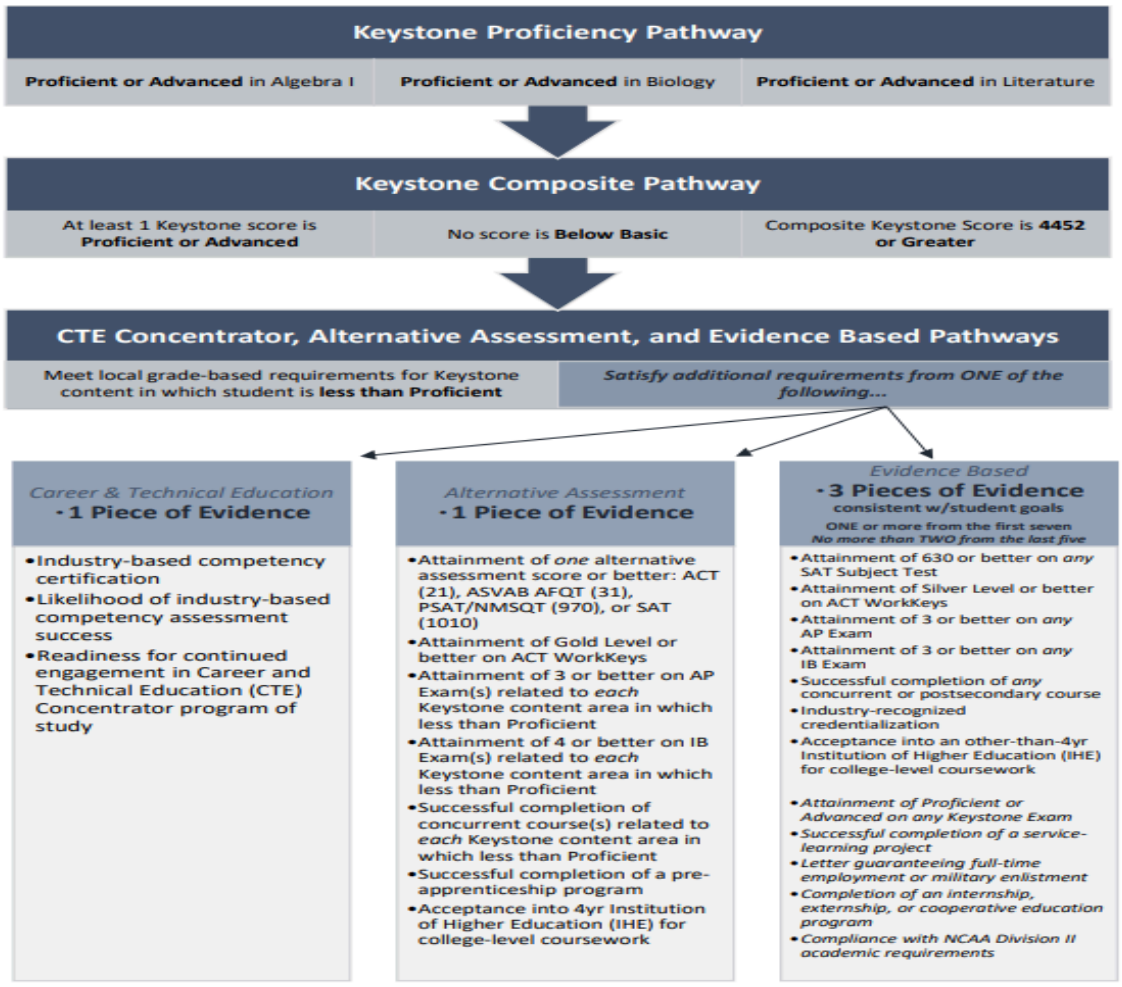
English	**4 credits**
Social Studies	**4 credits**
Science	**3 credits**
Math	**4 credits**
Physical Education	**2 credits(½ per year)**
Career and Personal Finance	**½ credit (CCCC assigned Grade 10, Grade 11)**
Health	**½ credit (Grade 11)**
Arts and Humanities	**2 credits**
Electives	**5 credits**

Physical Education

Students are required to participate in physical education unless excused by a physician. Students needing long-term modifications or adapted physical education must submit the appropriate medical documentation through the school nurse.

Students are expected to wear appropriate athletic clothing and non-marking athletic shoes during class. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen personal belongings; valuables should be secured or left with the physical education teacher during class.

Act 158 Pathway Graphic



COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Participation in the commencement (graduation) ceremony is available to all qualified graduating seniors. Seniors participating in commencement are required to attend all rehearsals unless previously excused by the principal. Requests to be excused from rehearsals must be presented in writing to the principal prior to the absence. Requests should be only for extraordinary reasons and not for routine business or employment. Seniors absent from scheduled rehearsals without prior approval may not be permitted to participate in the commencement ceremony. If a student has earned a diploma but does not participate in commencement for whatever reason, he or she will be issued the diploma any day after the commencement ceremony.

VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN

The member of the senior class having the highest GPA (Grade Point Average) will be declared Valedictorian; the second highest GPA will be declared Salutatorian. Each will present a speech at commencement. The Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be declared using final grades compiled from Grades 9-12. The GPA will be computed and rounded to the 4th decimal place in order to determine one (1) Valedictorian and one (1) Salutatorian for each graduating class.

Should the GPA be identical to the 4th decimal place, co-valedictorians or co-salutatorians will be named. (All grades through the end of the senior year will be used to determine Valedictorian and Salutatorian.)

STUDENT DRIVERS

The Board of Education encourages all students to utilize the transportation provided by the school district. The Board also recognizes that students have legitimate reasons to drive to school. Approval to drive to school must be secured from the principal and students must follow any rules the school may set forth. Driving to school is a privilege not a right. Students can lose this privilege for improper conduct and violations of school district policies.

The following student driver and parking lot rules apply:

1. Each student driver must register his/her vehicle each school year. Parking permits may be obtained in the office. All applications must be signed by a parent or guardian. Parking permits are issued to students on a first come, first serve, basis. A number will be assigned to match the numbered parking spot assigned. Permits will be issued starting with #1; students may not request a certain numbered spot. A parking space will be designated for a student during the entire school year.

2. There will be no fees associated with parking passes for the 2026-27 school year.

3. Students **MUST** display their current parking tag on the rearview mirror to enter the student parking area. Vehicles not displaying a valid permit may be towed off school property at the owner's expense.

4. Occasional drivers will be allowed three (3) temporary permits per school year, arranged by the office prior to parking in dedicated temporary parking spots. A temporary permit will be issued and must be displayed. The temporary permit must be returned to the office during the next school day.

5. **PARKING TAGS ARE NOT TRANSFERABLE** A student may use the tag on more than one car, if that car is also registered to the student on the parking permit form.

6. Students must park in the student parking lot in their assigned numbers space. There is to be no parking in the grassy area or outside of the painted lines. Violators may be towed away at the owner's expense. Students are not permitted in non-numbered parking spaces.

7. Cars parked in the wrong lots or parked without a valid parking tag may be towed at owner's expense or referred to the local police.

10. Students are not permitted to loiter in their cars before, after, or during school hours.

11. Sitting in a vehicle during the school day is prohibited.

12. Students are not permitted to go to the parking lot during the school day unless accompanied by an administrator or designee.

13. Student vehicles may be searched by school officials if there is a reasonable suspicion that there is a violation of the law or rules, regulations or policies of the Redbank Valley School District while the automobile is parked on school grounds.

14. Driving from the school grounds during school hours without permission from an administrator or designee is prohibited.

15. Permission to drive to and from the Career Center must be secured from the principal and the Career Center principal.

16. Pedestrians have the right of way in the parking lot and anywhere on school grounds.

17. Speeding **(in excess of 10 mph)** or careless driving on the school grounds is not permitted.

18. All students leaving the school grounds from the 8th grade exit need to turn right between 2:45 PM and 3:07 PM.
19. Driving to school while your driving privileges have been suspended or revoked may result in your vehicle being towed off school property at owner's expense.
20. Attendance regulations apply and may result in loss of driving privileges. (Example: Cutting class, third unexcused tardy to school, unexcused absence according to Pennsylvania Compulsory Education Laws.)
21. You are responsible and liable for your vehicle and passengers under PA Vehicle Code Laws.

1st Offense - loss of driving privileges from five to twenty school days

2nd Offense - permanently revoked

NOTE: The student's driving privileges may be revoked for serious driving violations and/or other appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken, as outlined in the disciplinary code and recommended by the Principal.

Parking tags and parking privileges may be revoked for one or more suspensions, multiple detentions, irregular attendance, or unsafe driving habits on school property. Any violations of District policy related to weapons, drugs, alcohol and/or any controlled substances/paraphernalia will result in the revocation of parking privileges for the remainder of the corresponding school year.

Violation of the stated regulations and driving behavior on Redbank Valley School District property that presents a hazardous situation will result in automatic loss of driving privileges. In addition, a traffic citation may be issued.

BOOK BAGS, BACKPACKS & GYM BAGS

Students may bring book bags, backpacks and/or gym bags to and from school in order to transport personal and curricular items. The book bags, backpacks and gym bags must be placed in the lockers upon arrival in the morning and kept there until dismissal except for gym class. Students may seek permission from teachers to store larger bags that do not fit in a standard locker. Students are reminded that school officials have the right to inspect these items upon request at any time.

LOCKERS

Lockers are the property of the Redbank Valley School District and are provided to the student for storing curriculum-related items and clothing.

The school has an obligation to insure that the locker is properly used and that no item placed in the locker jeopardizes the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the students, faculty, school property, and the educational process. To fulfill this obligation school officials have the right to conduct locker searches. Students are not to expect privacy from school searches of lockers outlined in the following section, Right to Search. Locker searches will be conducted without regard to any individualized suspicion.

Each student is assigned his or her own locker. Students are not permitted to share lockers with other students. It is recommended that lockers be used infrequently during the school day to prevent being late to class.

It is recommended that students not bring large sums of money or valuables to school. Students are responsible and encouraged to use locks to safeguard their possessions in their lockers. Combination locks are available for the student's use for $5.00 in the office.

The District urges students to keep their lockers locked. To help maintain a "safe school" environment, only school-issued locks may be used on school lockers, including hallway and gym lockers. All other locks will be cut off at the owner's expense.

The school is not responsible for materials left in the locker or for items or money removed by other individuals.

Should any of the following items be found in a locker, they will be confiscated and appropriate disciplinary proceedings instituted against the student in accordance with the Discipline Policy:

1. Knives, firearms, ammunition/casings, firecrackers, smoke bombs, or any other incendiary or explosive devices;
2. Tobacco products, "look-alikes", vaping supplies and paraphernalia;
3. Drugs (controlled substances) or "look-alikes" in any form;
4. Alcohol (in any form);
5. Obscene material;
6. Stolen property;
7. Drug use paraphernalia; and
8. Noxious materials including body sprays.

RESTROOM PRIVILEGES

Students are to use the restroom nearest their classroom. **No one is to be excused from class except in case of emergency.** It is recommended that one person is to be excused from a room at a time. Students must carry a hall pass any time they are in the halls during class periods.

Restrooms are to be used only for the purpose intended. Any other usage such as smoking, vaping/juuling, loitering, unpurposeful meeting, or hiding from school personnel will be subject to disciplinary action as defined in the disciplinary code.

A. Students are to go to the restrooms between periods. If an emergency necessitates using the restroom during a class, the following procedures should be observed:
    1. Ask the teacher's permission.
    2. Follow procedure established by the teacher.
B. Students should not assume that a teacher must honor every request. In cases where a student takes advantage, a request may be denied.
C. Restrooms are there for your convenience. Report immediately any restroom damage or malfunction to any staff member.

ELECTRONIC HALL PASSES

Students will utilize the electronic hall pass process in making requests to leave the classroom. The request will be able to be made on the student's chromebook in which the teacher must approve online and verbally prior to the student leaving the classroom. The electronic pass may have a waitlist due to the specific area being in use (Example: restroom). The teacher will have the student wait until the pass is approved to let the student leave. The student will still be required to carry a physical pass with them in the hallway.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR RULES & REGULATIONS

All students involved in extracurricular activities must not only follow the rules and regulations printed in this handbook but also those in the Extra-Curricular Handbook and any additional guidelines and regulations established for their particular activity.

DANCE REGULATIONS

Any student organization planning a dance must clear it through the faculty advisor. Then the representative students, together with the advisor, will submit a request to sponsor a dance to the principal for final approval.

The organization is responsible for working out all details, including chaperones, police, etc. This must be accomplished at least two weeks prior to the anticipated date of the dance.

There must be approved adult chaperones at each school-sponsored dance. The activity advisor must be in attendance and may have parents and/or other teachers assist. Any non-faculty or staff adults must have clearances on file in the office.

Student guests are only permitted for senior high dances. Student guests from other schools may attend only if pre-approved by the principal. Request forms are available in the Main Office. No guest may be 21 years of age or older.

All school regulations will be strictly enforced. Students leaving the dance will not be permitted to re-enter. Dances and Proms are not considered extra-curricular activities.

Any student misconduct will result in school disciplinary action, possibly including exclusion from further extra-curricular activities.

Senior High Dances: Students who attend any Redbank Valley dance are expected to sign in upon arrival to the dance and then sign out prior to leaving. All students and parents/guardians will be informed of the dance times for planning purposes. Any student not complying with signing in/out or any other dance rules may be removed from the dance or may receive further school disciplinary actions.

Junior High Dances: Students are required to arrive and be dismissed at defined times. Students may ONLY leave the dance prior to designated times with parental permission to the chaperone in charge of the event (phone call or in-person) and an adult must be there to pick the student up.

JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM

1. At least one person from a couple must be a junior or senior at Redbank Valley High School in order to attend the prom.
2. Juniors or seniors may purchase single tickets to attend the prom.
3. Sophomores and home-schooled students may attend the prom only if accompanied by a junior or senior.
4. Students under 15 years of age may not attend the prom.
5. Students in the 9th Grade or below regardless of age will NOT be permitted to attend prom.
6. Students who do not adhere to the high school discipline code may be restricted from attending the prom.
7. Prom escorts must be under the age of 21. With the permission of the principal, guests who are 21 or over and who are married or engaged (with proper documentation) to a senior may attend the prom.

8. Students from other school districts may attend the prom if:
   (A) they meet the requirements listed above
   (B) they provide the principal with a letter of agreement from their home school principal.

9. If prom falls on a school day, any student leaving school prior to 11:30 on the day of prom may not attend the prom.

DRINKS/CONTAINERS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

If a student desires to bring a legal drink from home into the school, the drink must be in an unopened container.

Water refill stations are available in the high school. Students are permitted to refill between classes or during a class with teacher permission. In addition, students may be excused from class to get a drink at water fountains closest to the proximity of their classroom.

If a student desires to use a closable container from home to fill at the refilling stations to drink from throughout the day, the container must be TRANSPARENT (may be colored) and can ONLY contain ice (No liquids) upon arrival. Hydro-flasks, Stanleys, Owalas and others will ONLY be permitted to enter the school if they are empty.

Drinks that are permitted to be consumed during the day must be from the approved Redbank Valley list and be in a closable container. The Redbank Valley School Store will also be providing opportunities to purchase these products throughout the school day. *****All food and drink items will abide by and follow school, local, state, and federal rules/laws/guidelines.*****

Legal drinks that are not on the Redbank Valley approved list may be brought from home provided they are unopened and will only be able to be consumed during breakfast/homeroom (with teacher permission) and/or during lunch only.

ADDITIONS

- Drinks in cans and other containers that cannot be closed are not permitted to be consumed during the day in classes or the hallways. If these drinks are open, or are being consumed upon entering the building, they will be required to be thrown away.
- Water bottles are not allowed in computer labs or around computers. If brought to class, they must be sealed and placed on the floor at the designated area. (Same as standardized testing.)
- Teachers reserve the right to inspect any water bottles at any time.
- Students who are misusing the water bottles (ie. Bottle flipping, littering, popping tops, etc) will lose the privilege of carrying a water bottle.
- Students may bring in closed containers, in original packaging, of permitted legal drinks. The ONLY time these drinks are permitted to be consumed are during breakfast (7:45-8:00am) or during their lunch period.
- Opened containers that are brought in the building containing a liquid will be emptied upon arrival.
- The vending machine is only permitted to be used after school hours.
- Athletes will be offered ice/water for their containers by coaches/trainer prior to practices and/or games.