

EAST ROWAN HIGH SCHOOL MUSTANGS

Home of the



EVERYONE READY!

2024-2025

Student & Family Handbook

come to know **EAST ROW**



GREETINGS MUSTANG FAMILIES!

On behalf of the East Rowan faculty, I extend Mustang greetings to our returning and new families as we begin the 2024-2025 school year! There is a sense of excitement among the staff as we have been preparing for students to return. Our students are at the heart of East Rowan, and we are ready to get this school year underway and our students engaged in learning!

As your principal, one of my main responsibilities is to provide a safe school where all students can experience success. I ask that all students follow the code of conduct at all times in order to provide this safe learning environment for all students.

As a proud Mustang alumnae, I always knew East was special, and I credit the teachers and staff with instilling in me a love of learning. I still remember how much my teachers here at East cared, how they pushed me to be my best, and how they expected more of me than I did for my future success. Serving as principal of East for the past seven years, I have had the pleasure to witness first hand these same interactions each day through a different lens. I am honored and excited to continue to be a member of a talented staff who puts students first. Our staff are dedicated individuals ready to provide learning exp**ER**iences for all students. As part of our vision of Ev**ER**yone Ready, we believe all students should graduate high school prepared for the demands of post-secondary education, employment or enlistment, in order to be productive and contributing citizens in our world.

I look forward each day to strengthening relationships that have been built in our school community. As we enter into this school year I hope that all Mustang families will partner with our staff here at East Rowan. It is through our partnerships, our vision here at East Rowan - Ev**ER**yone Ready! - becomes a reality for ALL students!

ERHS Principal

OUR CORE VALUES, MISSION, VISION

CORE VALUES

Accountability
Compassion
Integrity
Relationships



OUR MISSION

Provide students
with *pathways*
for success.



OUR VISION

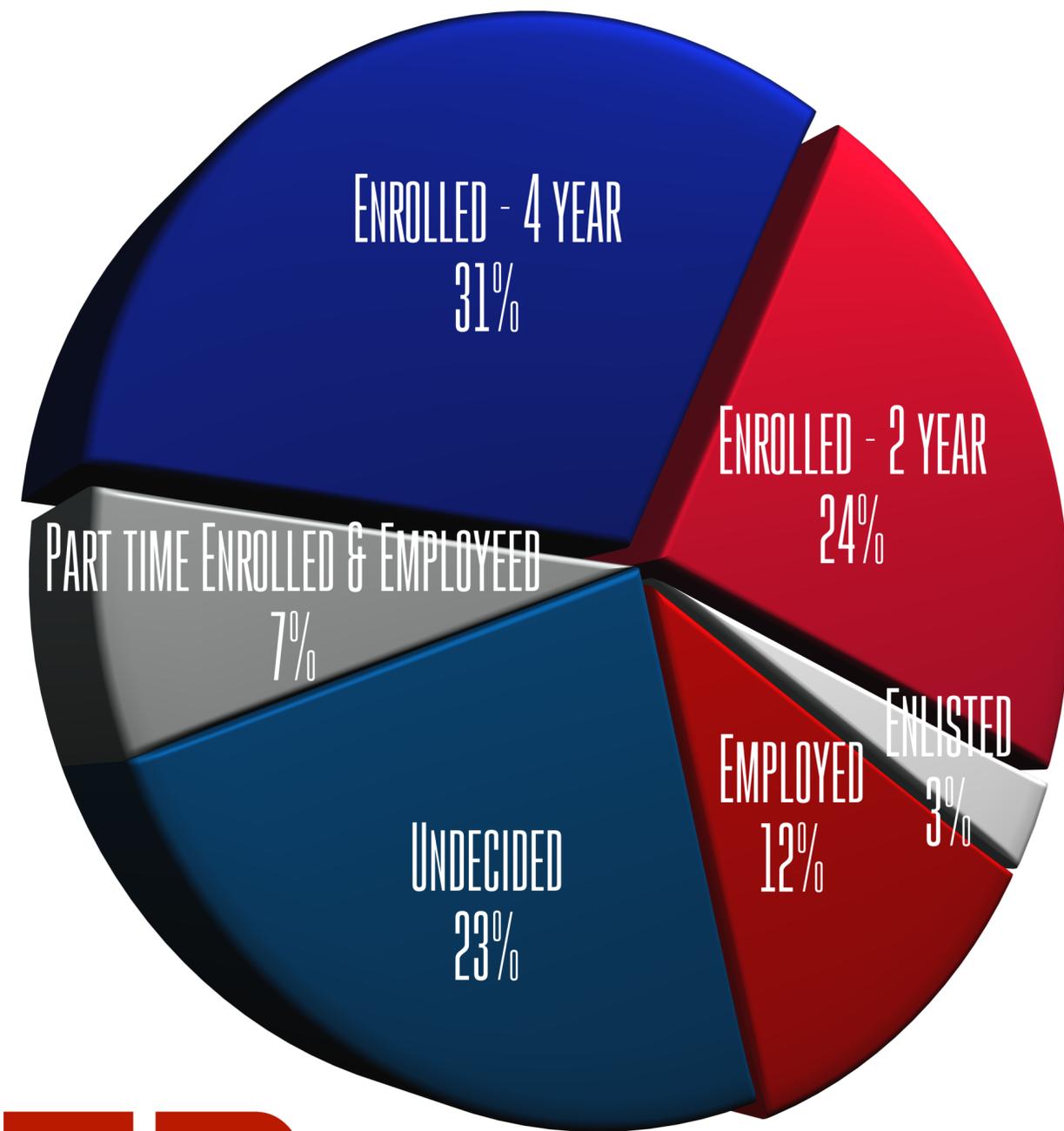
ev**ER**yone Ready

Create *lifelong learners*
enabling them to become

productive citizens in an
evolving world.



OUR MUSTANG GRADUATES ARE



EVERYONE READY!

*Percentages based on Class of 2023 self-reported senior exit surveys.

EAST ROWAN ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

MRS. TONYA BRINEGAR-GERMAN *Principal*
brinegargermentg@rss.k12.nc.us
704-279-5232 ext. 340001

Assistant Principals

MR. CHARLES EDWARDS
edwardsce@rss.k12.nc.us
**704-279-5232
ext. 340007**

MRS. MICHELLE WHITSON
whitsonmy@rss.k12.nc.us
**704-279-5232
ext. 340005**

DR. SUSAN TIGERT
tigertsl@rss.k12.nc.us
**704-279-5232
ext. 340006**

Have questions or need help? Contact us about...

**Technology
State Testing
Discipline - 10th grade &
9th grade (Last Names O-Z)**

**ACT, SAT, WorkKeys, AP Testing
MTSS
Student Discipline - 12th & 9th
grade (Last Names A-G)**

**Buses
EC & 504 Services
Extra-Curricular Activities
Discipline - 11th & 9th
grade (Last Names H-N)**

OUR DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| First Block | 8:30-10:00 |
| Mustang Advisory | 10:05-10:35 |
| Second Block | 10:40-12:30 |
| Third Block | 12:35-2:00 |
| Fourth Block | 2:05-3:30 |

LUNCHES

| | |
|---------|---------------|
| A Lunch | 10:40 - 11:05 |
| B Lunch | 11:25 - 11:50 |
| C Lunch | 12:05 - 12:30 |

YOUR CLASS SCHEDULE MATTERS

Maintaining good academic standing is important to ensure all students graduate and are ready for next steps beyond high school. A total of 22 high school credits are required for graduation. Attendance is important for success, and contributes to a student's academic success. Our school counselors audit student transcripts, and advisory teachers assist with academic check-ins on a regular basis.



Graduation Requirements:

4 English, 4 Math, 4 History, 3 Science, 1 Health/PE, and the Freshman Seminar Class

2 of your elective classes have to be a combination of Art, World Language, ROTC, and/or CTE classes to total 22 credits.

Classes are offered on regular, honors, college and career promise (CCP), and Advanced Placement (AP) when available.

STUDENT DAILY ATTENDANCE & PERIOD ATTENDANCE

School attendance is a powerful predictor of student outcomes. Regular school attendance promotes academic success. **Beginning fall semester 2024, your daily attendance (or non-attendance) in class affects your athletic eligibility for future semesters and also participation in extra-curricular activities and school privileges.**

- Students must be in attendance for 85% of the semester. You can not exceed 13 absences.
- Students must attend 50% of assigned classes on a given day to be marked present.
- Students must be present for at least 50% of the class in order to not be counted absent for the class.

LINK NEW DOCUMENT

KEEP IN MIND

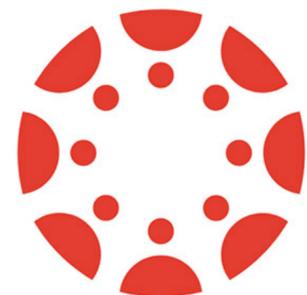
- Students must be present 50% of their scheduled day for athletic participation. This applies to both practices and games.
- Mustang Advisory counts as a class for attendance and applies to the new attendance requirements.
- Students will not be allowed to sign out for lunch and leave campus. There is not enough time to leave campus and return within your assigned second period class.

BE IN THE KNOW ABOUT EAST RO!

Each week on Sunday evening, a connected message will be sent to all Mustang Families with upcoming important dates about events happenings around East. We hope you will join our events as they are an important component of our school culture, a part of being a Mustang! All parents are encouraged to become an observer in Canvas and check grades & attendance through Infinite Campus.

CONNECT WITH CLASS ON CANVAS

Parents can sign up as an observer in Canvas. Observers can link their Canvas account to their student's account so they can see assignment due dates, announcements, and other course content. Observers can view the course content but cannot participate in the course. Contact your student's teacher to get your pairing code to link your account to your student.



CONNECT ON INFINITE CAMPUS

Parents can also sign up to view their student's grades, attendance and more in Campus Parent Portal. Contact Brandie Heald in the front office for assistance.

**Getting
Started
[Video](#)**



MUSTANG ADVISORY

Mustang Advisory is a time within our daily bell schedule centered around our core value of relationships and academic success. Why advisory? Our students mattER, and we want all students to have an advocate within our school. The broad purpose of a specific time set aside within a school schedule for an advisory period is to ensure at least one adult gets to know each student well, and ensures learning needs are being met, while also offering encouragement and helping them plan for their future. This is a key time for discussing important issues and to empower students to become invested in doing their part to create a strong, healthy and flourishing school culture in which all students can thrive. Students are the heart of East Rowan, and advisory is a time each day for students to unite togethER for common purpose. Students must attend advisory each day, and this class counts as part of your daily attendance. Only students excused from Mustang Advisory will be students enrolled in a face to face dual credit college class (off-campus at RCCC).

Advisory Schedule: 10:05-10:35 am

Monday/Wednesday/Friday-Advisory Class

Tuesday-Block 1 or Block 3 (alternating weeks)

Thursday-Block 2 or Block 4 (alternating weeks)

MUSTANG CLUBS



| Club | Advisor |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Art Club | Suzannah Callahan |
| Diversity Club/GSA | Rachel Moysan/Meredith Abramson |
| ERHS Records | Harrison Foreman |
| TSA | Robert Darconte & Scott Drye |
| FFA | Caroline Fitzwater |
| Junior Civitans | Courtney Mauney |
| Key Club | Stephanie Swink |
| Mustang Battalion | Col. Skelly, Sgt. Smith, & SGM Dickerson |
| National Honor Society | Melissa Miller |
| National Technical Honor Society | Katie Misenheimer |
| Student Government | Bri Lentz |
| Sigma Phi Gamma | Ernest Ritchie & Greyson Randolph |
| We Care Crew | Wendy Fontenot & Bailee Hepler |
| YCI | Colonel Skelly |

LADY MUSTANG ATHLETIC TEAMS



| Girls' Teams | Head Coach | Email Address |
|-----------------|--------------------|--|
| Basketball | Bri Evans | evansbj@rss.k12.nc.us |
| JV Basketball | Grayson Harrison | harrisonga@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Cheerleading | Chelsey Maready | chelsey.erhscheer@gmail.com |
| Cheerleading | Ashton Spiva | spivaae@rss.k12.nc.us |
| JV Cheerleading | Leanne Kluttz | kluttzkl@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Cross Country | Christine Leckonby | snarskyleckonbyc@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Golf | Tinsley Merrell | tinsleymerrell@hotmail.com |
| Soccer | Nermin Hodzic | hodzicn@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Softball | Todd McNeely | tod.mcneely@gmail.com |
| JV Softball | Jason Kluttz | kluttz3@yahoo.com |
| Swimming | Amanda Trexler | trexlerak@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Tennis | Phillip Daniels | pdaniels69@att.net |
| Track & Field | Christine Leckonby | snarskyleckonbyc@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Volleyball | Sandy Lytton | badmamajama08@gmail.com |
| JV Volleyball | Bailee Hepler | helperbe@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Wrestling | Shane Miller | shane.a.miller42@gmail.com |

MEN'S ATHLETIC TEAMS



| Boy's Teams | Head Coach | Email Address |
|---------------|-----------------|--|
| Baseball | Brett Hatley | hatleybl@rss.k12.nc.us |
| JV Baseball | Ethan Free | freeen@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Basketball | Trey Ledbetter | porteral@rss.k12.nc.us |
| JV Basketball | Seth Wyrick | allenca@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Cross Country | Cris Leckonby | snarskyleckonbyc@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Football | Brian Flynn | flynnbj@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Golf | Tinsley Merrell | tinsleymerrell@hotmail.com |
| Soccer | Nermin Hodzic | hodzicn@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Swimming | Amanda Trexler | trexlerak@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Tennis | Phillip Daniels | phillip.daniels@hallauto.com |
| Track & Field | Chase Burris | burriscr@rss.k12.nc.us |
| Wrestling | Shane Miller | shane.a.miller42@gmail.com |

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Scholastic Requirements:

- A student must pass 75% of classes in order to be eligible to participate in athletics.
- All student athletes should take a full class schedule, and maintain good academic standing in all classes.
- If a student is taking a RCCC course, he/she cannot drop the class if that will make the student have a load of less than 3 classes/semester and remain academically eligible.
- Fall eligibility is determined by spring grades. Incoming freshmen are excluded from this rule. Winter sports eligibility is determined by spring (of prior year, and you must remain eligible at the conclusion of fall semester). Spring eligibility is determined by fall semester.

Notice - New Policy from NCHSA

Students must have been in daily attendance* 85 percent (no more than 13 days absences) of the previous semester beginning January 1, 2025. (First semester will determine attendance eligibility for second semester and second semester will determine attendance eligibility for first semester.)

*You must attend 50% or more of your classes to be counted present for the school day.

All athletes must also have a current pre-participation physical evaluation, PPE (signed by a medial doctor), on file and complete all participation forms in FinalForms. See your coach or athletic directors, Mrs. Britschge or Mr. Hightower for more info.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Student attire should promote a safe and orderly classroom learning environment. It should be appropriate for the school setting. If a student is not following the dress code guidelines, then he/she will receive a dress code violation. The Dress Code violation includes wearing, decorating or adorning clothing that is inappropriate to the learning process. Clothing that reveals undergarments, chest, breasts, navel, buttocks, or any private body part will be considered inappropriate for the school setting. Any article that displays, suggests, promotes, or reveals a lewd, vulgar, unsafe, violent or sexual message through language, images and/or symbols is prohibited.

The following are NOT allowed at any time:

- Sunglasses in the school building or classrooms.
- Sagging pants; as such, undergarments are not to be seen.
- Clothing or hats with inappropriate, suggestive, language or pictures, to include drugs, alcohol, or tobacco.
- Bandanas, may not be displayed at any time.

The following dress code guidelines must be followed:

- If wearing leggings or yoga pants, the top/skirt/dress should completely cover the waistband.
- Shoulders must be covered if wearing a tank top.
- No mesh or see through shirts that expose the torso unless an appropriate shirt is underneath.
- Hoodies may be worn in the "up" position, but not with a hat throughout the building. Hats may be worn throughout the building. Students must ensure face is visible at all times.
- Shorts, dresses, and skirts should be school appropriate length and approximately mid-thigh.
- Clothing with holes or rips that show skin or undergarments should not have rips or holes that exceed mid-thigh on pants, shorts or skirts.

RSS OPT OUT FORM

A part of building our school culture is promoting students through internal announcements and also social media. Yearbook staff members, teachers, administrators, and other staff are frequently taking pictures throughout the school that may be used.

IF you do not want photographs of your child shared, or other information, you must submit an OPT OUT form to the main office. If you need a hard copy provided, please let Mrs. Clark in the main office know and one will be sent home.



**CLICK PICTURE TO
ACCESS**

RSS CODE OF CONDUCT

A safe learning environment for **ALL** students is the number one priority our staff. Our goal is to teach and model behaviors to promote a respectful and inviting school climate for **ALL** that honors differences in safe space. In order to provide a high quality educational experience, certain behaviors are expected at all times. It is the responsibility of both staff and students to teach and model expected behaviors and for the student to become responsible for his/her own behaviors.

If at any time expectations are not being met, then disciplinary action may be taken. Once a disciplinary referral is made, administration will follow the RSS Code of Conduct.



**CLICK PICTURE TO
ACCESS**



**HAZ CLIC AQUI PARA
ESPAÑOL**

SCHOOL AND CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

WE ARE

Behavioral expectations are easy to remember when you use the guide....

WE ARE ERHS!

As a Mustang take pride and ask yourself the following if your behaviors are in question:

- Am I Engaged?
- Are my behaviors respectful toward all?
- Am I working hard and doing my best?
- Is this safe?

E

Engaged

R

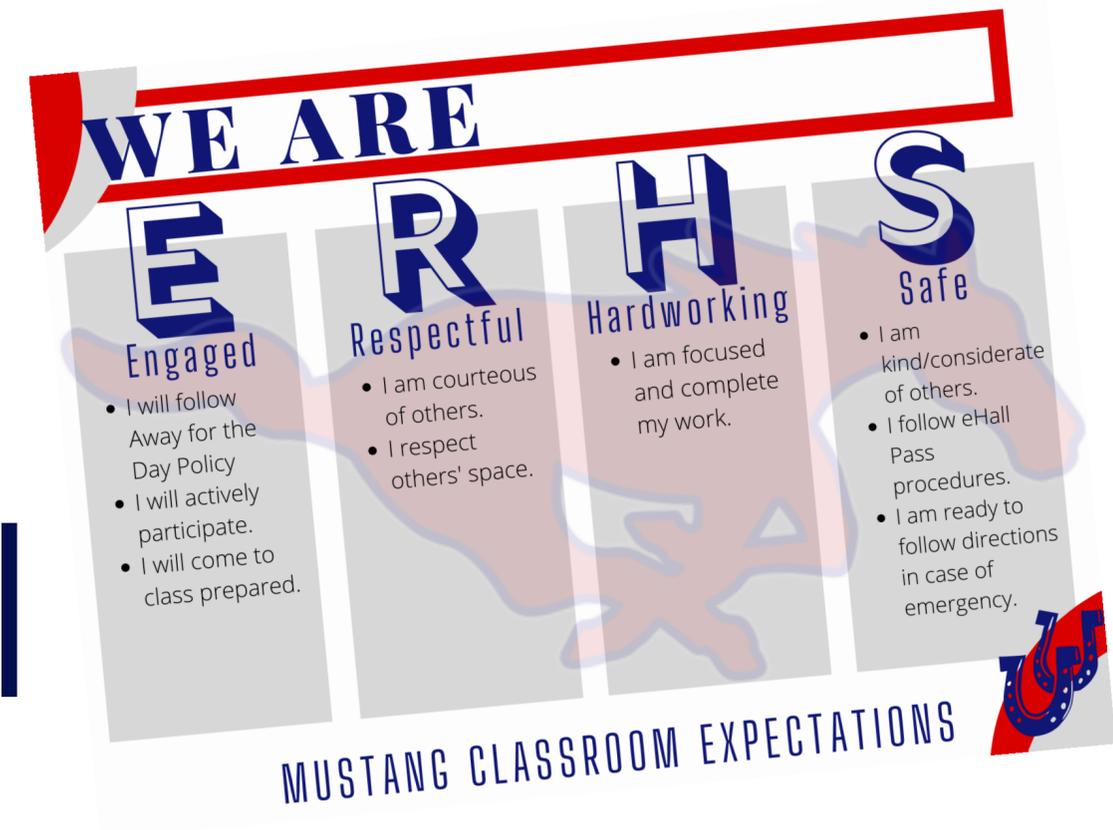
Respectful

H

Hardworking

S

Safe



WE ARE

E

Engaged

- I will follow Away for the Day Policy
- I will actively participate.
- I will come to class prepared.

R

Respectful

- I am courteous of others.
- I respect others' space.

H

Hardworking

- I am focused and complete my work.

S

Safe

- I am kind/considerate of others.
- I follow eHall Pass procedures.
- I am ready to follow directions in case of emergency.

MUSTANG CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS



WE ARE

E

Engaged

- I will eat lunch and have conversations with friends
- I will follow away for the day policy and can check my phone during lunch.

R

Respectful

- I leave the area cleaner than I found it.
- I am kind.
- I stay in line.
- I respect others' space.

H

Hardworking

- I ask myself the question: "Are my actions representing myself and my school in a positive manner?"

S

Safe

- I stay in my seat.
- I am in an appropriate area during lunch.
- One person at the restroom at a time
- I am ready to follow directions in case of emergency.

MUSTANG CAFE EXPECTATIONS



WE ARE

E

Engaged

- I am actively moving to my destination.
- I will follow Away for the Day Policy and check my phone while transitioning to my next class.

R

Respectful

- I respect school property.
- I am kind and respect others.
- I respect my teacher's class time and am intentional with my time.

H

Hardworking

- I am intentional with my time.
- When working in hall, I use the space appropriately.
- I ask myself the question: "Are my actions representing myself and my school in a positive manner?"

S

Safe

- I am ready to follow directions in case of emergency
- I use only one air pod, so I am able to listen.
- I Walk with my Head Up
- Keep Hands to Myself

MUSTANG HALLWAY EXPECTATIONS



WE ARE

E

Engaged

- I will follow Away for the Day Policy
- I will have self-discipline.
- I will stay on task

R

Respectful

- I use my inside voice.
- I respect/take care of spaces & resources.
- I will respect others space.

H

Hardworking

- I am intentional with my time.
- I ask myself the question: "Are my actions representing myself and my school in a positive manner?"

S

Safe

- I am kind/considerate of others.
- One person at the restroom at a time.
- I am ready to follow directions in case of emergency.

MUSTANG MEDIA CENTER EXPECTATIONS



CODE OF CONDUCT: MAJOR OFFENSES AND CONSEQUENCES

| Level | Definition | Types of Behavior * | Consequences |
|-------|---|---|--|
| I | Rule violations that involve behaviors that do not significantly violate the rights of others and do not appear chronic. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheating Forging Plagiarizing Honor code violation Possession of student's own prescription drug Being in an unauthorized area Truancy Excessive Tardiness Late to class Leaving school without permission Cell phone use Dress code violation Bus misbehavior | <p>First Offense: Minimum - Parent contact, ISS Maximum - 2 Days OSS</p> <p>Two or More: Minimum - ISS Maximum - 5 Days OSS</p> |
| II | Rule violations that involve behaviors which are more serious misconduct. There is no appeal for short-term suspensions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disruptive behavior Insubordination Disorderly conduct Theft Property damage-vandalism Bullying Bullying/Cyberbullying Communicating Threats to a Student Harassment - Verbal Misuse of school technology Use of tobacco/Possession of tobacco | <p>First Offense: Minimum - ISS Maximum - OSS 10 Days</p> <p>Two or More: Minimum - OSS 3 Days Maximum - OSS 10 Days</p> |
| III | Rule violations that involve behaviors more severe in nature; may call for principal recommendation for an intervention program, transfer to an alternative learning program and/or long-term suspension. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assaults, threats, and harassment Discrimination, bullying, harassment Major disruptive behavior Fighting Threat Trespass Destruction of property Possession or Use of Controlled Substance Possession/Use of Vape Possession of weapon (non-firearm) Clear threats to safety Bombs threats Gang related activity | <p>First and Subsequent Offenses: Minimum - OSS 5-10 Days Maximum - OSS 10 Days and/or Alternative Assignment</p> |
| IV | Rule violations that include a firearm or destructive device (a weapon such as a starter gun, which is designed to or may expel a projectile, or frame/receiver of said weapon, muffler, or silencer). | | May result in 365-calendar day suspension or expulsion. |
| V | Rule violations that involve behaviors that indicate that the student's continued presence in school constitutes a clear threat to the safety of other students or school personnel. | | Expulsion in accordance with N.C. General Statute §115C-390.11(a) the local Board of Education shall consider whether there is an alternative program that may be offered by the local school administrative unit to provide educational services. |

PARKING PRIVILEGES

Parking on East Rowan's campus is considered a privilege for students. Each student who drives must buy his/her own parking permit. Students may not share a permit. Neither ERHS or RSS assumes any responsibility for damages to private vehicles brought onto campus. All student drivers must be licensed and have appropriate auto insurance. The administration reserves the right to terminate parking privileges and/or tow any vehicle for cause. For the safety and security of the school, all vehicles are subject to search whenever a school official has reasonable suspicion to believe illegal or unauthorized items may be located inside the automobiles. Parking permits may be purchased from the front office before or after school, or during lunch, but not during class time. Parking spaces will be sold in priority order (seniors, juniors, sophomores, freshmen) as parking is limited and not everyone is guaranteed a parking space. Seniors can paint parking spaces with prior approval.



[Parking Permit Online Form](#)

[Senior Paint Form](#)

RESPONSIBLE USE TECH POLICY

The Responsible Use Policy has many conditions or facets of being a responsible Digital Citizen. The intended audience of this agreement is for Rowan-Salisbury Schools' students.

1. **Respect Yourself.** I will show respect for myself through my actions. I will select online names that are appropriate. I will demonstrate respect for myself and for others when posting information and images online, including personal information about my life, experiences, experimentation or relationships. I will not be obscene.
2. **Protect Yourself.** I will ensure that the information, images and materials I post online will not put me at risk. I will not publish my personal details, contact details or a schedule of my activities. I will report any attacks or inappropriate behavior directed at me. I will protect passwords, accounts and resources.
3. **Respect Others.** I will show respect to others. I will not use electronic mediums to bully, harass or stalk other people. I will show respect for other people in my choice of websites. I will not visit sites that are degrading, pornographic, racist or inappropriate. I will not abuse my rights of access and I will not enter other people's private spaces or areas.
4. **Protect Others.** I will protect others by reporting abuse, not forwarding inappropriate materials or communications, and not visiting sites that are degrading, pornographic, racist or inappropriate.
5. **Respect Intellectual property.** I will request permission to use resources. I will suitably cite any and all use of websites, books, media, etc. I will validate information. I will use and abide by the fair use rules. Use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) programs or applications are only allowed based on teacher direction. Use of AI or AI tools to complete assignments when teacher has prohibited will result in a misuse of technology and honor code violation write-up.
6. **Protect Intellectual Property.** I will request to use the software and media others produce. I will use free and open source alternatives rather than pirating software. I will purchase, license and register all software. I will purchase my music and media, and refrain from distributing these in a manner that violates their licenses. I will act with integrity.

SAFETY GUIDELINES

A safe learning environment for **ALL** students is the number one priority our staff.

- Monthly fire drills, earthquake drill, and tornado drill. We practice these drills so that we are ready in the event of an emergency.
- Lock down drills will be practiced quarterly. As families, you will be notified immediately when we have a lockdown drill. You are asked not to call the school immediately, as were it a real emergency, we would not be able to assist you in the moment. Listen carefully to connect-ed messages sent during school hours. These are often regarding safety issues, and we relay information as soon as we can.
- We will have two monthly random metal detector searches. A random process is used to determine which rooms are selected for the metal detector search. All families will be notified after a random metal detector search is conducted on campus.

SAFETY GUIDELINES

A safe learning environment for **ALL** students is the number one priority our staff.

- We will continue this year with our cell phone policy of **Away for the Day**. Students are not to have phones out in classrooms. Phones will be allowed before/after school, during class change, and at lunch. They need to be out of sight and not cause a distraction to instruction. For more information and research about the benefits to limiting cell phones in classrooms, visit <https://www.awayfortheday.org/>.
- **Hall Passes** will continue to be used. If students are in the hall, they must have a pass from their classroom teacher. This allows administrators/employees to track students in/out of class. Use will be monitored and limited if school personnel sees patterns of behavior that are not related to academics and a safe school. Students may be asked to show the pass to any adult in the school to ensure students are in the correct part of the building.
- **Students leaving campus without permission** during the school day will have parking privileges revoked in addition to disciplinary action. This poses a real risk to the safety of our students when they are leaving campus throughout the school day. All students leaving early/arriving late must use the main entrance of the school.
- Disciplinary action, including OSS, may result for **propping doors open** and letting students/any other person in locked entrances during the school day. This can result in unwanted visitors on our campus and is a huge safety risk. Patrols will be made on a regular basis to ensure locked exterior doors and gates.

BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR GRADE LEVEL REMINDS

FOR IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

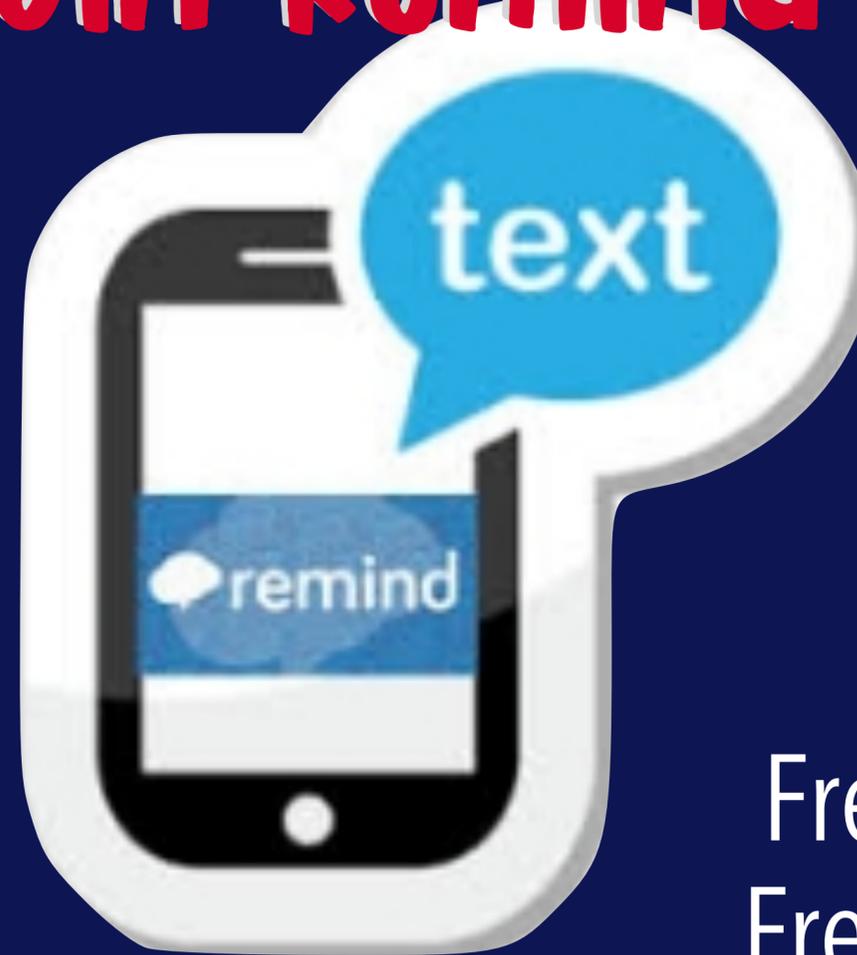
CLASS OF 2025

Seniors A-L @67bf4b
Seniors M-Z @cd88d39

CLASS OF 2027

Sophomores A-L @e4hk6ff
Sophomores M-Z @9dccff

Join Remind



by texting
the code
To 81010

CLASS OF 2026

Juniors A-L @479862f
Juniors M-Z @c3ab9b

CLASS OF 2028

Freshmen A-L @ dd4hh3
Freshmen M-Z @ 7f7d2a

WE WANT YOU

TO

Stay

CONN~~E~~CTED



Learn More

ABOUT US

www.rssed.org/ERHS



EAST ROWAN



Like us

ON FACEBOOK

@EASTROWANHIGHSCHOOL



Tag Us

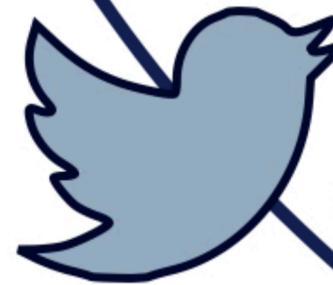
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Follow us

ON TWITTER

@EASTROWANHS





enlisted
EMPLOYED
ENROLLED

EVERYONE READY!

We are! Are you?

What will YOU do this year to make it count?