

**ROOTSTOWN
HIGH SCHOOL
2010 – 2011**

Student Handbook



**4190 State Route 44
Rootstown, OH 44272**

www.rootstown.sparcc.org

Table of Contents

Activities	13	Gambling	30
Athletics	13	Grade Scale	14
Attendance	5-7	OGT	18
Cheating	21	Graduation	21
Classroom Dismissal	9	Harassment	31,32
Code of Conduct	25	Operating Proc.	5
College Visitations	16	Out-of-School	35
Computers	21	PDA	31
Counseling Services	5	Parent Conference	18
Consequences of Action	33-36	Parking	9,31
Credits	16	Personal Property	11
Daily Schedule	4	Profanity	28
Detentions	33,34	Release of Info.	18
Diplomas	19,20	Repeated Offenses	33
Discipline	22,25	Report Card	15
Disruption of School	25	Safety	12,23
Dress Code	23,24	Saturday Det.	34
Drugs	24,25	Scheduling	18
Early Dismissal	8	Sexual Harassment	31
Early Release	10		
Electronic Devices	12	Tardy	7
Eligibility	14	Telephone	12
Emergency Removal	33	Threatening Acts	27
Expulsion	35	Tobacco	28
Failure to Serve	33	Theft	28
Falsification of Signature	32	Transcripts	18
		Truancy	26
Fax	4	Unexcused Abs	7,26
Fees	10,22	Unauthorized Pres	33
Fighting	26	Vacations	12
Fight Song	4	Valedictorian	17
		Vandalism	27
		Weapons	27
		Zero Tolerance	14,15

From The Principal's Desk

Dear Students & Parents:

We are beginning a new year in our educational preparation for the future. This process must be productive and also enjoyable for all students and staff members. We all must remember to cooperate to achieve these purposes.

This handbook serves to provide information. This material is intended to help us to function cooperatively in a manner that will enhance the education process and to allow us to enjoy our experience at Rootstown High School. This year will add to the Rootstown Tradition.

Sincerely,
Michael Ferguson
Principal

Scope of Jurisdiction

The policies of the student handbook are in effect whenever students are under the authority of school personnel or involved in any school activity. This includes but is not limited to school buses and property under the control of school authorities and while at interscholastic competitions, extracurricular events, or other school activities or programs on or off the Rootstown Schools grounds.

In addition, the policies herein include:

1. Misconduct by a student that occurs off school district property but is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on school district property; and
2. Misconduct by a student that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a district official or employee or the property of an official or employee.

Bell Schedule

Period 1	7:25 am – 8:15 am
Period 2	8:18 am – 9:12 am
Period 3	9:15 am – 10:05 am
Period 4	10:08 am – 10:58 am
Period 5	Lunch A – 10:58 – 11:28 am Class A – 11:01 – 11:51 am Class B – 11:31 – 12:21 pm Lunch B – 11:51 – 12:21 pm
Period 6	12:24 pm – 1:14 pm
Period 7	1:17 pm – 2:07 pm

General Information

High School: 330-325-7911
Counseling Ct: 330-325-4108
Attendance: 330-325-4120
Athletics: 330-325-2006
R.H.S. Fax: 330-325-8506
District Website:
www.rootstown.sparcc.org
Safe School Help line:
800-418-6423 Ext. 359

Board of Education:

President: Robert Dunn
Vice President: Tom Siciliano
Member: Jay Kelsey
Member: Dale Hluch
Member: Dr. Dean Brunner

Administration

Principal: Michael Ferguson

School Counselor:
Kristin Saffici
Secretaries:
Donna Walker
Joyce Kuss
Attendance: Pam Taylor

RHS at a Glance

Hours:
7:00 A.M. -Students May Enter
7:25 A.M. -Classes Begin
2:11 A.M. -School Day Ends

Colors: Blue & White
Mascot: Rover Ship

Alma Mater

Hail all hail to Rootstown High School!
Hold her banner high!
Our hearts beat with proud devotion.
Hail to Rootstown High
Bravely flow her colors o'er us,
Purest white and blue.
Proudly stand her sons and daughters,
Loyal, firm and true.
Author: Dearie Kibler

Fight Song

Here we are from Rootstown High School
The best in all the land
See our colors blue and white
All for which we stand.
When the schools all get together-
See our colors fly!
There's no school that's any better...
Than good old Rootstown High!

Mission Statement

In recognizing that a quality public school system is an investment in the continued growth and prosperity of the community, the mission of Rootstown High School is to prepare all students, to the best of their abilities, for the academic, social, civic, and employment demands of a global society. By creating a safe school climate, we will promote independent, critical thinking, and academic diversity through an integrated student-centered learning environment.

Counseling Services

Counseling is provided to students through the counseling center. Students are welcome to receive counseling services throughout the school year, provided by the school counselor.

Students may be referred or mandated to participate in counseling. Counseling may be provided individually, or in a group setting.

Any information communicated in individual sessions is confidential unless:

1. There is imminent danger present to the student or another individual.
2. The student is at risk of committing suicide.
3. The student is threatening another.
4. There is any abuse reported.

At these times the appropriate parties will be contacted. These contacts may include any or all of the following: Parents, Job & Family Services, Police, Principal, or any other party affected or potentially affected.

Student Operating Procedures

1. Attendance
 - A. The School Day

The Ohio Revised Code (Section 3313.48) mandates the official school day. For a full time student in a senior high school organized on the semester plan, the day must consist of not less than **five (5)** hours of scheduled classes and other educational options, including a half hour lunch. Rootstown Local Schools defines a full time student as one who participates in regularly scheduled classes for the duration of the school day and is enrolled in a minimum of six periods of classes. The Principal and the Superintendent, in accordance with the state minimum standards, may approve other educational options.

B. Attendance (Eligibility)

To be eligible for extracurricular activities, a student must be in school all day. Student's arriving late must have a medical/dental/legal excuse or an acceptable parent excuse (students will be allowed no more than four (4) parent-excuses per semester for the purpose of participating in or spectating at extracurriculars).

Students going home sick before the end of the school day may not return for an event anytime that day.

If a student is absent (unexcused) on Friday (he or she) may not participate in Saturday activities. However the administration may excuse students for extenuating circumstances.

These eligibility rules apply to all school events, on or off campus.

These rules supercede any other existing attendance policies.

C. Calling Off From School

Whenever a child is absent, the parents should notify the attendance office sometime between 7:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. each day of the absence. The number is (330) 325-7911. The attendance office routinely calls parents/guardians to verify absence in order to comply with the Missing Children's Act. Without parent contact, a student will be presumed unexcused. *A written excuse is also required for students that have been called off. It must be turned in within 48 hours of returning to school.*

D. Excused Absences/

The guidelines for absences follow the rules set by the Ohio Revised Code (section 3321) and by the Rootstown Local Schools. Students who are absent from school must bring a note of excuse for the absence to the attendance office before 7:20 a.m. The excuse should be dated, include the student's full name, reason for the absence, dates of absence and must be signed by the parent or guardian or the student (if eighteen years old). Excuses turned in more than two days after the absence will not be accepted, and the absence will be considered unexcused. An admit slip will be issued at the time the written excuse is presented to the attendance office. The admit slip must be presented to and signed by each teacher on the students schedule. The yellow slip is to be left with the last period teacher.

The State of Ohio will only allow schools to issue excused absence for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness
2. Illness in the immediate family
3. Death in the immediate family
4. Quarantine
5. Religious holiday
6. To assist a parent in an emergency situation

Personal and needed at home excuses will not be accepted unless the specific reason is approved by the administration. These absences will be marked unexcused if they have not been approved.

It is also expected that students bring a doctor's excuse for any illness that causes them to miss 3 or more consecutive days of school.

*Students who are absent from school may not attend any school related activity on that day (unless approved by an administrator).

- E. All other reasons for absence will be considered unexcused. Some examples of unexcused absences are work, oversleeping, car-transportation problems, running errands, job interviews, and appointments other than medical or legal.

F. Make-up Work - Homework Policy For Absences

For excused absences, it is the responsibility of each student with an excused absence to immediately upon return to school make arrangements with his/her teacher(s) to make up work missed. A student will be given one day to make-up work for each day missed. Scheduling of make-up work is at the teacher's discretion.

G. Tardy To School

Sign-In

7:25 - 8:10 am	Tardy
8:11- 11:10 am	½ Absent

Signing-Out

7:25 - 8:10 am	1 Day Absent
8:11 - 2:11 pm	½ Day Absent

Excessive Absences

Ten (10) absences for the year, with a phone call and note from the parent, will be allowed no questions asked. Beginning with the eleventh (11) absence, a doctor's excuse must accompany the parent phone call or the absence will be unexcused. The fifteenth (15) unexcused absence and/or tardy will result in a referral to the Juvenile Court.

H. Early Dismissal From School

Any student who must leave school early (before 2:11 p.m.) for appointments must bring a written request signed by parent or guardian to the Attendance Officer prior to the start of school on the day you wish early dismissal. This request should state the reason, time of desired dismissal, tentative time of return, and phone number where the parent may be reached. The student must have a verification form filled out and it should be presented to the Attendance Officer upon return to school.

4. Books

The Board of Education approves textbooks and furnishes them to all students. It is required that the books be given good care and returned to the teacher at the end of the school year or upon withdrawal from the class. If a textbook or library book is abused beyond normal wear, a fine or replacement cost of the book is assessed against the student.

5. Bus Transportation to School

The school provides bus transportation for all students who live farther than one mile from school. The bus schedule and route is available by contacting the transportation supervisor at 330-325-0189. Bus Conduct - refer to discipline section.

6. Cafeteria Regulations Procedures

The school participates in the National School Lunch Program. Students may also bring their own lunch to school to be eaten in the school's cafeteria. Applications for the school's Free and Reduce-Price Meal Program are distributed to all students.

Lunch

Students are restricted to the school building during lunch. Students will remain in the cafeteria until the lunch is over. The following is prohibited in our cafeteria: throwing of food or other items, taking food or beverages outside of the cafeteria, moving tables, leaving a dirty table.

**Students may not go to their lockers during lunch.
Bathroom use during lunches is limited to restrooms on
the first floor.**

7. Cancellation of School

If the school must be closed or the opening delayed because of inclement weather or other conditions, the school will notify the following radio and television stations:

TV Channels 3, 5, 8, 19, 43

Radio Stations: AM Stations: 1100, 1260, 1350, 1480

FM Stations:

92.5, 94.1, 96.1, 96.5, 98.1, 99.5, 100, 100.7, 102.1,

104.7, 104.9, 105.7, 106.5, 107.3,

In the event of school closing, all activities will be cancelled unless authorized by the superintendent.

8. Class Activities and Class Finances

Each class will have an advisor. Class activities must have the approval of the advisor and the principal, and must be adequately chaperoned.

9. Classroom Dismissal

The teachers, not the bell, dismiss classes. There are three minutes between each class, which allows ample time to reach any section of the building. Students are expected to be in their designated classrooms at the beginning of the period.

10. Driving and Parking Regulations

Driving to school is a privilege. Seniors and juniors will be given priority for a permit. Each student accepts the responsibility to drive safely and to observe the rules and regulations of the school. The administration may suspend the driving privileges of students who cannot abide by those guidelines.

Students are expected to park only in assigned student parking spots. Students are to drive with extreme care when leaving or entering the parking lot. Pupils who drive to school must then enter the school immediately after parking. ***Please Buckle-up!***

Students must register all vehicles with the office. There will be a limited number of permits sold. A valid Ohio driver's license, proof of insurance, parking pass request sheet signed by parent are needed to purchase a permit. Cost of the permit is \$10.00. Lost or stolen permits will be reissued at a cost of \$5.00

Students will be issued hang tags and must display those tags at all times while parking on Rootstown Local Schools' property.

Note: An excessive number of tardies may result in the loss of driving privileges.

11. Early Release

Work-study programs should contact counseling services to obtain the early release application form. The building principal must approve an early release request.

Any student who receives the early release privilege must have transportation home and must leave school property at the designated time. A student who obtains the early release may not come back to school to ride the bus. Any student who does not follow these guidelines may lose the privilege.

12. Portable Electronic Devices

The use of headphones, cell phones, and any other portable electronic devices are not permitted. Cell phones must remain in lockers at all times. At no times are phones allowed in classrooms. Possession of a cell phone in the classroom, library, study hall or cafeteria will result in the following consequences: First offense – confiscation of phone and detention. Second offense – confiscation of phone and Saturday detention. Third offense – confiscation and one day of In-School Suspension. Fourth offense – confiscation and one day of Out-of-School Suspension. In second cases of confiscation and beyond, phones will only be returned to the parent.

Students will be allowed to access phones between class periods, at their lockers and at lunchtime, in the cafeteria.

13. Fee-Fines

Report cards, records, credits, transcripts, and/or diplomas will be withheld until fees and fines are paid. All fine/fee monies and other financial obligations are to be paid in full. A payment plan may be arranged with the administration.

14. Hall Pass

All students in the halls during class periods must have a hall pass. Students must also sign-out of the classroom before leaving.

15. Illness/Injury

When a student becomes ill or injured, they should report to the office. Permission to release students from school will be allowed by office personnel after parents or their designees have been notified. The school is not allowed to dispense medicine (forms

must be signed by doctor if children need medicine during the day); first aid will be given as needed.

16. Library

The high school library is a materials and technology center for students and staff. In order that it may serve as a successful part of the total school program by supporting and enhancing the curriculum, the following procedures will be enforced:

- A. The teacher in charge will grant admission to the library from study halls after attendance is taken. Students choosing to come to the library are expected to remain the entire period.
- B. Quietness, courteousness, mutual respect and appropriate use of the library for reading research, homework, and studying must prevail at all times. Students unable to comply with these guidelines will lose their privileges to use the library.
- C. General Circulation:
 - Books, periodicals, vertical file materials may be borrowed for two weeks.
 - Any time during the day and picked up at the end of the school day. These materials must be returned the next school day by 7:30 a.m.
 - Damaged bar code labels on materials will be charged at the rate of \$5.00 each.
 - The library may be unavailable on occasion. Please check with the librarian if you need assistance.

17. Lockers and Personal Property

Each student is assigned a locker. Students may not change lockers without permission. Materials, signs or stickers may not be affixed to the outside of the locker unless approved by the administration. Materials that become permanent when affixed to the inside of the locker are not permitted.

Lockers are the property of the school and therefore are subject to random searches by authorized personnel at any time. (ORC 33120.20).

18. Lost and Found

The lost and found box is located in the High School office.

19. Medication

The school nurse will conduct the dispensing of medication in accordance to signed documentation by the doctor and parent or guardian.

20. School Safety

Keeping our students safe in the school setting is of the utmost importance. This is reflected in school rules regarding visitors, emergencies and the student conduct code. For this reason backpacks, book bags, gym bags or any other carriers are not permitted in the classrooms. **Our Safe School Help line is 800-418-6423.**

21. Security of Personal Property

Theft may occur at school; however, by applying preventive measures, it can be kept minimal.

It is advisable that students **not**:

- A. Have large sums of money in their possession.
- B. “Share” hall or physical education lockers
- C. Leave any locker unlocked
- D. Leave valuables, purses, books, etc., unattended in the cafeteria, restrooms, classrooms during assemblies, etc.
- E. Report any thefts to the main office immediately.

22. Telephones

Students are required to use the student phone in the main office, with the approval of the office staff, to contact parents/guardians. Students receiving calls in the office will be given messages at the end of the school day, unless in the case of an emergency.

23. Vacations During the School Year

Vacations during school days are strongly discouraged. Students may be excused for family vacations during the school year provided that prior written notice has been given at least five school days ahead and has been approved by the Principal. Students must make arrangements with their teachers concerning assignments before leaving for vacation. Students who miss tests/exams due to a vacation must take exams at the teacher’s discretion. Students have a day for each day out to make-up work and exams.

24. Visitors

All visitors must check in at the main office and obtain a “Visitor’s Badge” before proceeding to any part of the building.

ACTIVITIES

The following activities are available for Rootstown High School students. We strongly encourage student participation:

Athletics	Office Aides
Art Club	Peer Tutoring
Band - Concert	Student Advisory Council
Band - Marching	Quiz Bowl
Cheerleading	Ski Club
National Honor Society	Student Council
Choir - Concert & Show	Yearbook
Drama Club	Youth Safety Council
Student Government	Chess Club

ATHLETICS

1. The following sports are available for Rootstown High School students. Students are encouraged to become involved in the sports programs.

Male	Female
Baseball	Cheerleading
Basketball	Basketball
Golf	Cross Country
Cross Country	Softball
Soccer	Soccer
Track	Track
Football	Volleyball
Wrestling	Bowling
Bowling	Golf

2. Athletic Checklist

Prior to any conditioning or practice an athlete must have the following on file in the athletic office:

- A. Physical Form
- B. Emergency Medical Form
- C. Signed OHSAA eligibility form
- D. Team Rules

3. Academic Eligibility

To be academically eligible for competition in co-extracurricular activities, a student must receive a passing grade in a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent the preceding grading period. The student must also maintain a 1.5 grade point average.

4. Athletic Events

Rootstown Local School students are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship and excellent conduct while attending athletic events. Students are expected to stand, stop talking and take off their hats during the playing of the National Anthem. The Portage Trail Conference provides rules and guidelines regarding crowd control and sportsmanship.

Athletic schedules are available on-line at www.highschoolsports.net or www.rootstown.sparcc.org.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION ABOUT ROOTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

GRADING SCALE

93 – 100	A	4.0
89 – 92	B+	3.5
85 – 88	B	3.0
80 – 84	C+	2.5
75 – 79	C	2.0
70 – 74	D+	1.5
65 – 69	D	1.0
64 and below	F	0

HONORS GRADING SCALE

90 – 100	A	4.0
80 – 89	B	3.0
70 – 79	C	2.0
60 – 69	D	1.0
59 and below	F	0

50% Minimum

The lowest percentage a student can earn at the end of each nine-week grading period is 50%. However, any student who refuses to complete work or opts to not complete work will receive a zero. Any student who puts forth a legitimate effort but actually earns less than 50% will have the nine-week grade recorded as a 50%.

Zero Tolerance for Incomplete Work/Failure

Students not completing work will be required to stay after school and complete the missing or incomplete work the same day the work was due and every day after until the work is complete. Students not achieving a proficient level of at least 70% on assessments will have to complete another assessment, with teacher

approval, that shows that they have a proficient level of understanding of the standard.

The Honors Grading Scale will be used for the following courses only:

8th grade Algebra, Honors Algebra 1, Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, Statistics, Functions, Honors World History, Honors U.S./World History, AP History, Foreign Language 3rd & 4th year, Honors English 9, 10, 11, AP English 12, Honors Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Advanced Chemistry.

INTERIM REPORTS

Interim reports are mailed home during the fifth week of the grading period. Interim grades are shown as letter grades. They are an approximation of the grade that will be given for the grading period if the same quality schoolwork continues to be done in that class.

REPORT CARDS

Reports cards are issued once every nine weeks. Grades are computed in the following manner:

- A. Grades are based on percentages, which are converted to letter grades, using the grading scale noted above.
- B. All semester grades are calculated by averaging the nine weeks letter grades. Each nine-week letter grade is valued at 50% of the semester grade
- C. Report cards are mailed home. If school fines or fees are owed, the report cards are not issued.

SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION

Exemplary scholastic achievement is encouraged and recognized at Rootstown High School. In an effort to achieve this goal, eligible pupils are named to the honor roll each grading period, and a valedictorian and salutatorian are named for each graduating class.

HONOR ROLL

The Honor Roll will include those eligible from Rootstown High School. Students attending Maplewood must meet the criteria established by Maplewood.

Students earning a 3.0-point average will be listed on the Honor Roll for the completed grading period. Students earning a 3.5 grade point average will be listed on the Distinguished Student Honor Roll.

COLLEGE VISITATION PROCEDURE

Seniors and juniors who are interested in visiting colleges are encouraged to do so on Saturdays and vacation days. Since this is sometimes impossible, we will permit seniors and juniors two (2) days per year for college visitations (exempted as absent from the total absences recorded providing established guidelines are followed.)

After May 1, no college visitations will be granted. Parent/Guardian must notify the attendance office in writing a minimum of two (2) school days prior to the planned visit. Without written notification by parent/guardian, college visitation request will be denied. Students absent under this circumstance will be considered unexcused.

- A. Prior to visiting a college the student must pick up a college visitation form from the guidance office and get an approved signature by the School Counselor. The administration reserves the right to deny approval due to, but not limited to, school activities, student attendance record, student discipline record, and student academic performance.
- B. After the visitation, the student must return the form signed by the college representative or return a signed letter from the college.

PROMOTIONS AND CREDITS

Every student must take a minimum of six periods of class during the school days. Credit is given for passing grades each semester even if the course requires a year for completion. If a student fails a semester of a required course, he or she is required only to take that needed semester again.

Students who fail a class need to schedule a conference with the counselor to make sure their credits are correct for graduation. The earned letter grade is part of the student's GPA.

Grade classification is based solely upon the number of years a student has been in attendance at the high school level. To achieve senior status, however a student must have earned a minimum of fourteen credits by the first day of the senior year.

Grade Point Averages

- A. The grade point average is the determining factor of class rank along with taking the required number of honors level classes.
- B. Using each semester grade and multiplying by the proportional credit determine quality points. Courses that are

fractional in credit value will receive respective amounts of quality points.

C. Foreign exchange students are not ranked as part of the class.

Grade point averages are calculated at the mid-point of the junior and senior years. After the third nine weeks of the senior year, the students in the top 20 places from the most recent class ranking will be recalculated using the third nine weeks grade as an additional semester. This ranking will be used to determine the “Top Ten” for the use with newspaper and other media information regarding graduation ceremonies. At the end of the senior year a new and final ranking will be calculated and reported with the students’ final transcripts. To be included in the “Top Ten”, a student must have attended three years of an accredited public/private high school **and attended RHS for no less than 5 semesters as a full-time student.**

VALEDICTORIAN/TOP-TEN REQUIREMENTS

The following are the new requirements for earning valedictorian, salutatorian or top-ten status at Rootstown High School:

Foreign Language: 3rd and/or 4th year

Math: Honors Algebra 1, Honors Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus (Alternate Track for 9th graders: Honors Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry in the same year Honors Algebra II, etc.)

English: Honors Lang. Arts 9, 10, 11 and AP English

Social Studies: Honors World History, Honors US/World History, AP US History

Science: Honors Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Adv. Chemistry

Students must take and pass at least 15 out of these 18 courses including 2 out of the 3 Advanced Placement (AP) courses in order to be considered valedictorian, salutatorian or a top-ten student.

These new requirements are also being phased in for the class of 2011.

Phase-in of Valedictorian requirements:

Seniors (class of 2011)

Foreign Language: 3 years, Honors English 3 years, Geometry (if not taken), Honors Algebra II, Pre Calculus, AP Calculus, Honors US/World History, AP US History, Biology, Chemistry, Physics.

Students must take and pass at least 11 out of 13 courses including 2 out of 3 AP courses

The valedictorian and salutatorian as well as the top-ten students will be chosen from those students who complete the above requirements and achieve the highest overall Grade Point Avg.

RELEASE OF INFORMATION

The “Armed Forces Recruiter Access to Student and Student Recruiting Information Act” requires that schools make student names, addresses, and telephone numbers available to military recruiters and institutions of higher education.

TRANSCRIPTS

Most colleges and many employers request official school transcripts. Attendance, semester grades, and test scores make up that record. The date of graduation, class rank, and GPA are listed for graduates. Transcripts may be mailed directly to colleges from the high school. Requests for transcripts should be made two weeks prior to any deadline. As a current Rootstown High School student, there is no fee for this service. Graduates must pay a \$2.00 fee payable to Rootstown High School.

OHIO GRADUATION TEST

Current 10th graders will be required to pass the Ohio Graduation Test before graduating. The test will be administered in the spring of 10th grade and additionally as provided by the state until all sections of the test are successfully passed. To prepare our students for this test, modification in the school’s curriculum will be ongoing.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parents are encouraged to meet with Rootstown High School teachers to discuss their child’s progress or problems. Parents may call an individual teacher to arrange a conference or go through the counselor to set-up a meeting with a group of teachers. Formal parent conference nights are scheduled for October and February/March.

SCHEDULING PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

When a student makes his or her course selections, it is understood that they wish to take those classes selected. We will do everything possible to get individual students their course requests. Each time an adjustment is made to our schedule other students are affected.

We are very reluctant, therefore, to change schedules or course selections after schedules have been completed. Please plan your future carefully and choose your courses wisely.

We will not consider a change in a student schedule after June 9 unless a unique circumstance arises for such a consideration. These include:

- A. Academic Hardship - A student is determined to lack adequate requirements of the class at this time. The request is to be initiated through the teacher. A parent meeting is required which will include student, parent and guidance counselor.
- B. Physical Disability - A student has been medically excused or has an extended illness that would necessitate a review of their schedule. It may be in their best interest to reduce their credit load to salvage required course credits.
- C. Impaired Mental/Emotional Status – If a student is experiencing an atypical situation, communication between the principal, school counselor, and school psychologist will be necessary in order to investigate the severity of the situation in relation to his/her schedule. It may be in the student’s best interest to revise his/her schedule.
- D. Scheduling Opportunity - If an original selection was closed in spring becomes available in the fall or at the semester break, due to circumstances, a student may drop a requested course to secure the original selection.
- E. Failing a Required Class - If a student fails a course that is required for graduation, the student may drop an elective class in order to have time to retake the required course he/she failed.
- F. In any other situation, only the principal may grant a class drop. If a request is not approved by the principal but is granted, a withdrawal “F” will result. A student has 3 weeks to decide if they wish to add a class. After 4 ½ weeks any class drops/withdraws will result in a failing grade for the semester.

DIPLOMA POLICY

The State Department of Education has provided for two types of diplomas to be issued.

- A. A regular diploma will be issued to students receiving a passing score on the **Ohio Graduation Test** and who have passed all local graduation requirements.
- B. Twenty-one units of credit (**22** beginning with the class of 2012) are required for graduation in addition to passage of the **Ohio Graduation Test**.
- C. Required subjects are:

English	4 credits	Math	3 credits
Science	3 credits	Social Studies	3 credits
Health	½ credit	Phys. Ed.	½ credits
Computer Appl.	½ credit	Electives	6 credits
Speech	½ credit		

To satisfy the science requirement, students must have one credit of life science, one credit of a physical science, and one additional unit.

A diploma with honors will be issued to students completing specified criteria from a local high school or at the completion of studies at a vocational school.

Students must meet 8 of the 9 criteria:

- A. Four units of English
- B. Three units of math - Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2
- C. Three units of science.
- D. Three units of social studies.
- E. Three units of the same foreign language or 2 units of two foreign languages.
- F. One unit of fine arts.
- G. One unit of business/technology and two additional units in any of the first seven categories or three additional credits from the above list.
- H. Maintain a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale through the last grading period of the 12th grade.
- I. Obtain a composite score of 27 on the ACT or an equivalent composite score on the SAT.

President's Award for Excellence - At the high school level, the guidelines seek to recognize students who have achieved through the most challenging courses and through results of college admissions test. Students must earn a 3.5 GPA and place in the 85th percentile in English, math, or reading on the ACT.

Award of Merit - The Ohio Department of Education has established the following criteria for the Academic Award of Merit:

- A. 4 units of English
- B. 3 units of math - Algebra, Algebra 2 and Geometry
- C. 3 units science - 2 of (Biology, Chemistry, a Physics)
- D. 3 units of social studies - World & American History, POD

- E. 3 units of the same foreign language or 2 each of 2 languages.
- F. 2 units in any of the above or from fine arts, business, computer science
- G. Maintain a school attendance record for 4 years of high school that exceeds the state average (91% in 2001)
- H. Maintain a 3.25 GPA for grades 9-12 or a 3.5 GPA in 11 & 12 or rank in the top 25% of the class
- I. Satisfy local requirements for citizenship and extra-curricular and co-curricular activities.

GRADUATION INFORMATION

Valedictorian - Salutatorian

The graduating senior who completes the required coursework and has the highest GPA shall be named valedictorian of the graduating class. The name of this individual shall be published in compliance with the Privacy Act. The graduating senior who completes the required coursework with the second highest GPA shall be named salutatorian of the graduating class. However, a salutatorian will not be named if more than one valedictorian is honored for the graduating class.

CHEATING/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY/PLAGIARISM

All instances of cheating and/or plagiarism will be reported to the Principal immediately. Telephone, mailings or both may be used to notify parents and a conference may be held with the student, parent, teacher and/or the Principal. The student who provided information used to cheat may be subject to the same academic discipline as the student who uses the information.

If a student cheats on a paper, quiz or test, his or her grade for the quiz or test will be a zero. If a student plagiarizes any material, he or she will receive a zero for the assignment. A second offense of cheating or plagiarism will result in failure of the class for the semester.

INTERNET/COMPUTER POLICIES

Use of the Internet is an education privilege granted to students by ACCESS (our A-site) and Rootstown High School. Students wishing to use the Internet must agree to abide by the rules as stated in both the Access form and the Rootstown's user's form. Both the student and his or her parents must sign the form.

Should a monitor identify a student or students who failed to follow the rules as stated in the agreement, the student will not be allowed to use the Internet. Additional consequences may apply depending on the violation.

COURSE FEES

Rootstown High School charges fees for some academic class. Fee amounts are listed in the course catalog.

DISCIPLINE:

Good conduct is based on respect and consideration for the rights of others. Students will be expected to conduct themselves in such a way that the rights of others are not violated. The students of Rootstown High School will conform to school regulations and accept directions from authorized school personnel.

A student who fails to comply with established school rules or any reasonable request made by school personnel on school property and/or at school-related events will be dealt with according to approved student discipline regulations.

House Bill 421 requires that every Board of Education adopt a student code, covering suspension, expulsion, removal, and the types of misconduct for which a student may be suspended, expelled, or removed. The following is the list of possible disciplinary actions, which may be implemented against any student who does not comply with the board approved student discipline code:

- A. Conference with the Principal or designee
- B. Detention
- C. Emergency removal
- D. In-School Suspension (ISS)
- E. Saturday Detention
- F. Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
- G. Expulsion (80 Days)
- H. Court Action
- I. Restitution for stolen or damaged property (school or personal)
- J. Loss of privileges (driving to school, bus transportation, extra curricular, etc.)
- K. Confiscation of objectionable materials
- L. Alternative Educational Placement

In order for discipline to be effective, it is essential that parents, teachers, students, and administrators work together. Discipline may be administered for offenses during extra and/or co-curricular activities whether on or off school property.

REPORTING TO AUTHORITIES

Any information regarding student behavior where illegal activities are suspected may be turned over to the proper authorities.

PROVIDING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

The Rootstown Local Board of Education and the Rootstown High School administration have the right to employ accepted methods of school observation and inspection necessary to maintain a safe and secure environment. This may include, but is not limited to, the use of video recording, security officers, police dogs, and restricted access to school property.

DANGER OR FEAR OF DANGER TO INTRODUCTION OF GROUP

Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the philosophy and educational beliefs of Rootstown High School. No staff member will encourage, permit, condone or tolerate any hazing activities. No student, including leaders of student organizations, shall plan, encourage, or engage in any hazing activities.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

In general, dress and grooming should be appropriate for school. It should, at all times, be governed by safety, good sense, good taste, cleanliness, and be non-disruptive to the scheduled daily routine. (ORC 3313.20) Radical departures from conventional clothing are inappropriate for school attire. Listed below are a few guidelines, which will aid students in determining if their clothing is suitable for school. If there is any question of appropriateness, the Principal will make the determination.

- A. Clothing cannot have any alcohol, drug, or tobacco messages/advertisements, obscene phrases stated or implied, or sexually explicit material.
- B. See-through, mesh, low cut, bare midriff, backless, **strapless** or otherwise revealing clothing, halters, tube tops, are not permissible. **Shoulders must be covered by at least three fingers-width of material.** (All outerwear must cover underwear).
- C. Pants must be worn appropriately at the waist and cannot drag on the floor. **Excessively tight fitting pants are also not permissible.** Holes in pants must not appear above the knee regardless of what is worn underneath them.
- D. Excessively tight fitting, or shorter than mid-thigh shorts, skirts, or dresses are not permitted. When standing with arms at the side, there must be material below the fingertips.

- E. Hair must not be worn in extreme styles (ex. Mohawk), except on days specified as exceptions by the administration, (Spirit Days, etc.)
- F. Chains, collars, and clothing with spikes are not appropriate.
- G. Outdoor jackets and coats are not to be worn during the school days.
- H. Headwear, bandanas, baseball hats, sunglasses may not be worn inside the building.
- I. Footwear must be worn. Slippers are not permitted.
- J. Body piercings are limited to the ears and one small stud in the nose.
- K. Tattoos (body art) that are obscene, vulgar, racially or ethnically offensive, pertain to violence, gangs, cults or are otherwise disruptive may not be visible in school or at any school event.

Students caught violating the dress code will be issued a detention for the first and second violation with subsequent violations resulting in Saturday detention or I.S.S. Students with inappropriate clothing may be required to wear school-issued clothing if parents cannot bring them a change of clothing.

Changing styles and various trends make it difficult to have a written rule for each and every potential dress code situation. The reasonable judgment of administration will be used to address areas arising that are not specifically covered above.

DRUGS AND LOOK-ALIKE DRUGS

Students should be aware that the use, possession, and sale of illicit drugs and alcohol or counterfeit drugs and alcohol is illegal and harmful.

A controlled substance is defined as a drug, compound mixture or substance included in Sections I, II, III, IV or V of the Ohio Administrative Code. Included in these schedules are narcotics such as amphetamines, depressants, and hallucinogens, as well as many other types of drugs. Counterfeit controlled substance is defined as:

- A. Any drug or drug container or label that bears a trademark, trade name, or other identifying mark used without the owner's authorization of the rights to such trademark.
- B. Any unmarked or unlabeled substance that is represented to be a controlled substance that is manufactured, processed, packed or distributed by a person with legal rights to manufacture, process, pack, or distribute it.

- C. Any substance other than a controlled substance that a reasonable person would believe to be a controlled substance because of its similarity in shape, size and color or its markings, labeling, packaging, distribution or the price for which it is sold or offered for sale.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Student Code of Conduct was established for the welfare of the entire student body. Without effective conduct and discipline, there is little or no opportunity for effective learning to take place. Discipline for violating a conduct rule will be administered as necessitated by the nature and seriousness of the offense. Unless noted in a paragraph under the offense, disciplinary actions or consequences may range from detention to expulsion, as listed in the Student Code of Conduct. Second and third offenses will be dealt with in a more severe manner.

1. DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL

A student shall not use violence, force, coercion, or threats to cause material disruption or obstruction to the educational process, including all curricular and extra-curricular activities. Students shall not advocate or encourage others to cause a disruption of the educational program or violate the school rules. The following list provides examples of the various types of violations of this rule: horseplay, bomb threats, setting off fire alarms, strikes or walk outs, the use of smoke or stink bombs, fireworks, the impeding of traffic to or within the school building, etc. Articles, which interfere in any way with school procedures, disrupt instruction or become hazards to the safety of others, are not allowed. Such items include: electronic devices, including cellular telephones, laser pointers, or **ipods**, radios, and toys. Open bottled or canned drinks are not permitted in the classrooms or hallways during school hours. Disciplinary actions may range from detention to expulsion depending on the severity of the disruption or offense.

2. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REQUESTS OR DIRECTIONS (INSUBORDINATION)

A student shall comply with directions of teachers, substitute teachers, student teachers, teacher assistants, the principal, or any other authorized personnel during any period of time when the student is properly under the authority of school personnel. Failure to comply is insubordination. Repeated violations of any minor rule, directive, or discipline procedure shall also constitute insubordination. Disciplinary actions may range from detention to expulsion depending on the severity of the disruption or offense.

3. TRUANCY, UNEXCUSED ABSENCES, UNEXCUSED TARDINESS, AND CUTTING CLASS

A student shall not be truant, tardy or absent (unexcused) as explained in the handbook under the subject heading Truancy, Unexcused Absences and Unexcused Tardiness. Disciplinary actions may range from detention to expulsion depending on the severity of the disruption or offense. Driving privileges may also be revoked.

Tardies To School

Truancy/Cutting Class

Per Semester

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1-4. Warning | |
| 1-5. 5. Detention | |
| 7. 2 Detentions | 1. 1 Day ISS |
| 9. Saturday Detention | 2. 2 Days ISS |
| 11. ISS – 1 Day | 3. 1 Day OSS |
| 13. 1 Day OSS | 4. 3 Days OSS |
| 15. Referral to juvenile court | 5. 5 Days OSS |
| | 6. 10 Days OSS |

4. FIGHTING/UNPROVOKED ATTACK (ASSAULT)

A student may not act or behave in a manner that could cause physical injury to another person, cause altercations, make verbal or written threats to another person or his/her property. Verbally baiting someone is an act, which could cause someone to retaliate in a fight situation and is subject to disciplinary actions. There will be an emergency removal from school for students engaging in fighting during the school day. Any student involved in fighting or assault may receive the following depending on the severity of the situation:

First Offense 1- 3 days of OSS with a parent conference

Second Offense 3 - 5 days of OSS w/ a parent conference

Third Offense 10 days of OSS and Possible Expulsion

Students using any instrument considered to be a dangerous weapon in the act of assaulting another person would be subject to immediate expulsion.

Misconduct not on school property but which is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on school property may also be disciplined.

5. **FRIGHTENING, DEGRADING, THREATENING, OR DISGRACEFUL ACTS**

A student shall not take part in any act, which frightens, degrades, threatens, or disgraces another person by written, verbal, physical or gesture means. Disciplinary actions may range from detention to expulsion depending on the disruption or offense.

6. **DANGEROUS WEAPONS AND INSTRUMENTS**

Students are prohibited from bringing a firearm (as defined by USCA sections 921-924) on school property, in a school vehicle or to a school-sponsored activity. If a student brings or possesses a firearm on school property, in a school vehicle or to any school sponsored activity, the superintendent may expel the student from school for a period of one calendar year. Any such expulsions shall extend, if necessary into the school year following the school year in which the incident occurred. The superintendent may reduce the requirement on a case-by-case basis in accordance with State Law.

Students are also prohibited from bringing or possessing knives on school property, in a school vehicle, or to any school-sponsored activity. The definition of a knife includes, but is not limited to, a cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade fastened to a handle. If a student brings or possesses a knife on school property, in a school vehicle or to any school sponsored activity, the superintendent may, if upheld by the Board, expel the student from school, with the same conditions as listed in the previous paragraph.

Students who possess or use other dangerous weapons which are defined, but not limited to metal knuckles, straight razors, explosives, **lighters** noxious irritants or poisons, drugs or other items possessed with the intent to harm, threaten, or harass students, staff members, parents or community members may be subject to expulsion.

7. **DAMAGE OF PROPERTY (VANDALISM)**

A student shall not cause, or attempt to cause, damage to school property or private property on school grounds. Students should take care of all school property. Students involved in damage to school property will be held responsible for the cost and/or labor necessary to repair the damage. Disciplinary action will be taken against all offenders. Damage to school or private property could include landscaping, athletic facilities, buildings and content, instructional materials, school buses, etc. Disciplinary actions may range from detention to expulsion depending on the severity of the disruption or offense.

8. **THEFT**

A student may not cause or attempt to take into possession the public property or equipment of the school district or the personal property of any other person on the school property or at any school-sponsored activity. This property includes information (data) stored on computer disks, audio or visual tapes.

Students in possession of stolen property may be subject to disciplinary action. Students will be expected to make restitution for stolen item(s).

Disciplinary actions may range from ISS to expulsion, depending on the severity and value of the theft or attempted theft.

9. **OBJECTIONABLE MATERIALS**

A student shall not possess, use, buy, create, transmit, or secrete any of the following:

- a. Materials which are offensive to prevailing standards in the community, and which are without redeeming social value.
- b. Materials, which contain language potentially offensive to prevailing community standards.
- c. Materials which are libelous or slanderous of any person or institution, or which are intended to hold any person, race, ethnic group, or religion up to scorn, ridicule or contempt.
- d. Materials, which pose, clear and present danger to health or safety of the student or any other person. Disciplinary action may range from detention to expulsion depending on the severity of the action.

10. **PROFANITY/OBSCENITY**

A student may not use profanity, obscenity or inappropriate language. This includes written, verbal, gestures, signs, pictures, or public actions. Disciplinary action may range from detention to expulsion depending on the severity of the action.

11. **TOBACCO**

A student may not use or have in their possession any form of tobacco or imitation substances in the school building, on school grounds, on the school buses, or at the bus stop. This rule is in effect during the school day and after hours during school activities. For a first offense, a student will receive 1-2 days ISS. For a second offense they will receive 1-3 days out-of-school suspension, and for a third offense, 5 days of out-of-school suspension. Any further violation will result in a 10-day out-of-school suspension and recommendation for assessment.

**12. NARCOTICS, DRUGS OR UNKNOWN SUBSTANCES,
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

A student may not make, possess, use, transmit, conceal, buy, or offer to buy for sale any known narcotic drug (or unknown substance represented as a drug or narcotic), drug paraphernalia, or alcoholic beverage while at school or at any activity.

Students who fail to comply with school rules concerning possession, use, and/or sales of drugs, or any unknown substance represented as a drug, will be given a ten day out-of-school suspension with a recommendation for expulsion, plus any possible court action related to the specific offense.

The expulsion may be waived upon presentation of evidence to the principal or superintendent that the following procedures have been followed:

- A. The student and his parent/guardian agree for the student to be evaluated, at their expense by a trained chemical dependency counselor or a licensed physician trained in chemical dependency for a professional opinion concerning the degree of use/misuse/addiction. (Rootstown High School will provide a list of acceptable agencies and/or physicians available to the parent).
- B. The contracted agency or office will notify the principal that the student has made contact and is willing to comply with the appropriate treatment process.
- C. The student and parent must enter into and complete a behavioral contract with the principal, who will place additional behavior demands on the student during the course of the suspension or expulsion.
- D. If at any time during the period of suspension/expulsion, the student is not in compliance with the action required in steps a, b, and c, the expulsion will be reinstated.

Alternate placement and/or possible court action may result from unlawful use or possession. If a second offense occurs, there will be immediate expulsion from school, plus any possible court action related to the specific offense. *The student may also be banned from extra curricular and co/curricular activities for the remainder of the school year.

13. POSSESSION OF ILLICIT DRUGS AT EXTRA-CURRICULAR EVENTS

Possession, use and/or sale of drugs or any unknown substance represented as a drug or alcoholic beverage while at an extra-

curricular or co-curricular event will result in a minimum 45-day denial of all extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. In addition the student will be removed from the corresponding class (if applicable) with loss of credit for the remainder of the semester. Possible court action along with possible recommendation for expulsion, and a referral for a formal assessment may be included with the denial of activities

14. GAMBLING

A student should not engage in gambling on school grounds or at any school-sponsored events. For a first offense, 1 to 3 days of detention. For a second offense, 1-2 Day ISS will be given and for a third offense, 1 to 3 days of OSS.

15. APPROPRIATE DRESS

The dress code at Rootstown High School will, for the most part, be left to the better judgment of students and their parents, using the guidelines found in the dress code section of the handbook. Dress and grooming will be clean and in keeping with health, sanitary and safety requirements. Students who disregard the guidelines will be asked to change their attire and/or shower bathe before being admitted to classes. Parents will be notified and students will be sent home to change clothes. In addition to correcting the attire, a first and second offense will result in one detention. Any further violations may result in Saturday detentions or ISS.

16. CONDUCT ON THE SCHOOL BUS

Because the bus and bus stops are an extension of the classroom, students are expected to be courteous and behave in an appropriate manner. The bus driver is in full charge of each bus and does have the authority to assign seats and/or administer discipline as needed. A student shall not behave in such a way as to distract the bus driver from performing his/her duties. Bus transportation is a privilege and may be taken away at anytime.

Failure to follow the bus rules and regulations will result in losing bus privileges for periods ranging from 1 day to the remainder of the year. The School Bus Assertive Discipline Plan provides specific disciplinary action. This plan is distributed to all students on the first day of school.

17. OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE OR MOTORCYCLE

A student shall not bring a motor vehicle or motorcycle onto school property without the proper permit. Students must park their vehicles in the area assigned to them. While on school

property, the vehicle must be operated in a safe manner so as not to endanger the safety or property of others.

Students who must drive to school on a temporary basis may do so, but must register their cars with the office before the beginning of the school day. Violations requiring towing of the vehicle will be at the student's expense. The administration also has the option to revoke driving privileges.

18. PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

Students shall not engage in kissing, embracing, or displays not appropriate to the educational environment. For a first offense, 1 to 3 days of detention. For a second offense, ISS will be given and for a third offense, 1 to 2 days of Saturday Detention.

19. BULLYING OF STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL

A student shall not harass other students or school personnel at any time. The following list gives examples of harassment and bullying: sexual, physical, verbal, psychosocial, and cyber. Discipline may range from detention to expulsion as decided upon by the principal.

HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is illegal because it violates federal and state laws. Sexual harassment is a kind of discrimination. It means that someone is treated differently because of his or her sex. It is behavior or words that:

- Are directed at a person because of his or her sex
- Are uninvited, unwanted, and unwelcome
- Cause a person to feel uncomfortable or offended
- Create an environment that makes learning difficult

The legal definition of sexual harassment is: unwanted sexual advances, which may be verbal, nonverbal or physical.

Remember, if sexual remarks or behavior are **UNINVITED, UNWELCOME, OR UNPLEASANT TO THE OTHER PERSON**, that's sexual harassment. It's unfair, disrespectful, and has no place in school.

If you are being sexually harassed, report it immediately to your school counselor or to a school administrator. Any person who engages in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action.

BULLYING

Bullying is defined as a person willfully and repeatedly exercising power or control over another with hostile or malicious intent (i.e., repeated oppression, physical or psychological, of a less powerful individual by a more powerful individual or group). Bullying includes, but is not limited to physical, verbal (oral or written), electronically transmitted, psychological (e.g. emotional abuse), through attacks on the property of another, or a combination of any of these. Some examples of bullying are:

Physical – hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, pulling, taking and/or damaging personal belongings or extorting money, blocking or impeding student movement, unwelcome physical contact.

Verbal – taunting, malicious teasing, insulting, name calling making threats.

Psychological – spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships, coercion, or engaging in social exclusion/shunning, extortion, or intimidation.

“Cyber bullying” – the use of information and communication technologies such as e-mail, cell phone and pager text messages, instant messaging (IM), defamatory personal web sites, and defamatory online personal polling web sites, to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others. (Bill Belsey – <http://www.cyberbullying.ca>) Cyber bullying includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Posting slurs or rumors or other disparaging remarks about a student on a web site or on web blog;
- Sending e-mail or instant messages that are mean or threatening, or so numerous as to drive up the victim’s cell phone bill;
- Using a camera phone to take and/or send embarrassing photographs of students;
- Posting misleading or fake photographs of students on web sites.

20. FALSIFICATION OF SIGNATURES

A student shall not engage in or take part in the falsification of signatures (parent, school official, or any other person) on any correspondence directed to the school or within the school operation. This includes any falsification of data, grades, address on school forms, excuses, dates, etc. Disciplinary actions may

range from detention to expulsion depending on the severity of the disruption or offense.

21. UNAUTHORIZED PRESENCE

No student shall be permitted in the school building or on school grounds without authorized permission from school authorities. Students staying after school for practices or activities must remain in the commons area until the activity begins. Following extra-curricular activities and athletic practices, students are permitted to be in the lobby area of the high school only. The following areas are unavailable to students: staff rooms, staff restrooms, and lockers after activities, unsupervised classrooms, and the teacher's lounge. Disciplinary actions may range from detention to expulsion depending on the severity of the disruption or offense.

22. REPEATED OFFENSES

Repeated violations of the code of conduct will result in more severe disciplinary action.

23. FAILURE TO SERVE ASSIGNED DISCIPLINE

Failure to serve assigned disciplines will be considered insubordinate. Appropriate disciplinary action will be followed.

The principal retains the right and privilege to issue penalties for acts of discipline not specifically stated herein and to alter any penalties as considered necessary. The principal may also issue consequences for offenses not specifically stated herein.

CONSEQUENCES OF ACTIONS

EMERGENCY REMOVAL

Removal from class for disciplinary reasons is a serious matter. Students dismissed from class are to report immediately to the office with an appropriate explanation from the teacher. Each removal will be judged independently. Under certain circumstances, a student may be placed on immediate probation or receive disciplinary action ranging from detention to expulsion. In cases of suspension or expulsion, law enforcement agencies may be notified. Students who are removed from class will not receive credit for work missed.

DETENTION

All certified staff members may assign detention to students for failure to comply with any of the rules and regulations at

Rootstown High School. Students will be given 24 hours notice of any after-school detention.

Students who do not attend their scheduled detention will receive two detentions. Repeated offenses will result in further disciplinary action including ISS, Saturday Detention or OSS.

Detentions take place after school from 2:20 p.m. to 3:20 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday. Students should report to the cafeteria at the end of the school day. Students will be given no credit for the detention if arriving after 2:20 p.m. Students assigned to detention are expected to bring paper and pencil and have assignments to complete. Students without work to do will be given an assignment by the detention teacher. Students may not sleep, eat or talk in detention. Failure to follow the directions of the detention teacher will result in further disciplinary action.

Because students receive detentions for inappropriate behavior, Rootstown High School is not responsible for transportation after school hours. As a result, it is the responsibility of the parents to provide transportation when their child is assigned an after-school detention.

*Teacher may assign detentions for violations of their classroom rules.

SATURDAY DETENTION

Saturday Detention is a disciplinary action given in certain situations when a student does not comply with the board approved discipline code. The student is required to report to the assigned area from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the date(s) assigned. Students should bring assignments or will use the time as assigned by the Saturday Detention supervisor.

Failure to attend an assigned Saturday Detention may result in out-of-school suspension. Arriving late to Saturday Detention will result in another Saturday being assigned. Rescheduling of Saturday Detention must be pre-approved by the administration.

Students are responsible for finding their own transportation to and from Saturday Detention. Students should wear normal school attire.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

Placement in the ISS is the next step in the discipline ladder. The ISS will provide an alternative form of discipline before a student is placed in Saturday detention or out-of-school suspension. It allows an opportunity for students to continue their academic work during their disciplinary placement. Its intent is to allow qualified

personnel to effect a favorable change in the behavior of the student.

Students placed in ISS are to report at 7:25 am and remain there until dismissal at the end of the school day. Escorted restroom breaks will be given 3 times during the day and lunch will be eaten in the room as well.

Students are required to bring all textbooks, school materials, pencil and paper. Students are to get homework assignments prior to ISS. Counselors and teachers may also be available for the student during their time in ISS. Specific guidelines for ISS will be given to the students when the discipline is assigned. Violation of any ISS rules will result in immediate emergency removal and a 1day OSS.

OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS)/EXPULSION

Consequences for behavior beyond the assignment of ISS or Saturday Detention are serious situations that shall follow School Board policy and the State law that applies. Students may be suspended from one to ten days, depending on the severity of the offense(s). Students will be required to complete mandatory counseling. This may be completed in school or at an outside agency, as determined by the counselor and principal. All schoolwork should be made up. All schoolwork, during OSS, should be completed and turned in on day of return. Any tests, projects, etc. due during the suspension are due on day of return. Expulsions may be for the remainder of a semester or for an entire school year, depending on the terms of the expulsion.

PERMANENT EXPULSION

Under Ohio law, a student may be permanently excluded from attending any of the public schools of this state if the student is convicted of, or adjudicated a delinquent child for committing, when he/she was sixteen (16) years of age or older, a specific act that would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult.

MANDATED COUNSELING / COMMUNITY SERVICE

The principal and counselor may mandate any student to participate in counseling / community service dependent upon the nature of his or her behavior in school or toward a member of the school community. The counseling / community service obligation may be fulfilled at the high school or referred agency agreed upon by the principal and counselor.