

Rockwood Valley Middle School Student Handbook

Welcome to Rockwood Valley

Letter from the Principal

August 2022

Dear Rockwood Valley Knight:

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! We are looking forward to having a great year with you, and hope that you find success in everything you do at RVMS. This handbook will provide you and your family with information that will be helpful in bringing that success.

Your years at Rockwood Valley Middle School will be filled with learning, growth, and fun. You will have an opportunity to build a solid foundation of core knowledge and skills, explore your interests, and enjoy time with your classmates. We strongly encourage you to stay focused on academics while taking the time and initiative to become involved in clubs, athletics, and many other activities. You will get out of middle school what you put into it!

When it comes to discipline, Rockwood Valley Middle School prides itself on a discipline plan that is fair, restorative and consistent. We believe each student has the right to learn in an atmosphere of respect, where all display responsibility and conduct themselves with integrity. We also understand there will be times when students forget their responsibilities or fall short of these high standards of behavioral expectations. For this reason, we provide a plan of discipline that has as its goal restoring both a safe and stimulating environment as well as rebuilding the relationships damaged by the misbehavior.

When a student is involved in a conflict, we view it as a situation that needs to be resolved and as a teachable moment. Therefore, we will use our collective knowledge and expertise to support the student with this critical learning. We ask parents/guardians to review this handbook along with their children as we firmly believe the home/school connection is critical to student success.

At Rockwood Valley Middle School, we are committed to supporting you, challenging you and ensuring you are safe each and every day. We are available to students and parents/guardians throughout the school year to work together and provide each student the best opportunity for a quality education. We are so excited to learn and grow with you in the year ahead. Let's work together to make this the best year yet!

Sincerely,

Dr. Karen Hedrick
Principal

Dr. Eric Higgins
Assistant Principal

Mr. Dustin Hays
Assistant Principal

Mission Statement

All Rockwood Valley Middle School students will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to become life-long learners as well as self-directed and responsible citizens.

Non-Discrimination Statement

The Rockwood School District prohibits and will not tolerate discrimination against or harassment of any student, employee or applicant for employment, or in its programs and activities, because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, genetic information, marital status, disability, handicapping conditions, or any other factor that is not a proper legal basis for an employment decision, and it provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This policy will prevail in all matters concerning the staff, the students, the public, the educational programs and services of the district, and individuals with whom the Board does business. Inquiries by students, parents, employees, or the public regarding Rockwood School District's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the compliance coordinators listed below:

Dr. Katherine A. Reboulet, Compliance Coordinator for Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, the Missouri Human Rights Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (for employees and members of the public), the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act and P.L. 92-318, Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX (race, color, national origin, religion, genetic information, marital status, sex, age, disability and handicapping conditions (for employees and members of the public) discrimination issues),

Rockwood Administrative Center
111 East North Street
Eureka, Missouri 63025-1229
636.733.2034

Dr. David Cobb, Compliance Coordinator for Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (for students), P.L. 93-112, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and P.L. 94-142, Education for all Disabled Children Act (disability and handicapping conditions (for students) discrimination issues),

Rockwood Administrative Center
111 East North Street
Eureka, Missouri 63025-1229
636.733.2107

Inquiries may also be directed to additional compliance coordinators for unlawful discrimination and harassment set forth in Rockwood Regulation 2130

For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, visit <https://nrs.ed.gov/> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

The Academic Program

Core Curriculum/Teaming

One of the primary components of the Rockwood Valley Middle School program is team teaching. Each student is assigned to a group of teachers who work cooperatively to determine learning needs and plan together to design appropriate instruction situations.

Teachers of the core content areas (Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) are organized into teams to pool resources, interests, expertise and knowledge of students to meet their educational needs. Core teams are organized by grade level, and each student is assigned to a core team. This team organization provides a key source of identity and belonging for students and ensures smallness within the larger school setting.

The advantages of the teaming approach include:

- more enriched curriculum through on-going sharing of ideas
- better insight into students
- building on the strengths of the individual teachers
- continuity of curriculum across the core contents
- better grouping of students
- flexibility in time schedule
- common availability to meet with parents/guardians
- greater collegiality among the teachers provides positive role models for students

Encore (Exploratory) Curriculum

Students have opportunities to explore a variety of areas of study. This helps them to explore interests and to make better decisions for high school and beyond.

Physical Education/Health

Students participate in Physical Education/Health class every other day. They are required to wear clothes that are suitable for physical activity, socks, and athletic shoes in order to fully participate in class activities. Boots, sandals, crocs, slides, etc are not permitted as they pose a safety hazard and don't allow students to fully participate. Students may not wear the same clothes for PE that they wore to school. Students need a combination lock for their gym locker. PE uniforms may be purchased from PE/Health teachers.

With a written note signed by a parent, students may be excused from PE/Health classes for up to three days. A new parent note is necessary for each day that a student misses PE if no doctor's note has been submitted. For a student to be excused from PE/Health class for longer than three days, a written excuse signed by a doctor is required. A physician's note should include the date that the student may return to full activity and any alternate activities that the student can participate in during PE class. Parents should inform the PE/Health staff of any medical problems their child may have throughout the school year.

Non Academic Indicators and Student Success

The Rockwood School District believes that although specific learner skills may not be directly calculated in a student's grade, they have a significant impact on learning and impact the grade. These skills are defined as student work habits. It is critical that students know and understand that their approach and behaviors toward learning have a significant impact on actually learning. These work habits will be assessed by teachers and reported with the student's academic grades at the midpoint and end of each semester providing insight into factors contributing to the overall success of the student. The three work habits are *actively engages in learning*, *task completion of course work*, and *responsibility for learning environment*.

Homework

Homework is any assignment that students complete outside of regular classroom time. This work might include written assignments, projects, oral drill and practice, independent reading, and test preparation.

All assigned homework will be for the purpose of preparation, practice or elaboration. Preparation is initiating thinking about a topic, establishing context for a topic or gathering materials or information needed to study a topic. Practice is additional repetition of a skill that students are largely familiar with in order to reinforce correct execution of the skill. Elaboration helps connect new learning with prior knowledge in order to embed concepts in long term memory, facilitate the transfer of ideas and encourage application of concepts.

A typical sixth grader will have a minimum of 60 minutes of homework each school night, seventh graders will have 70 minutes, and eighth graders will have 80 minutes. Parents/guardians can facilitate homework by providing a quiet place with adequate lighting where the student can complete assignments. We encourage all parents/guardians to promote reading for pleasure.

Student Recognition Program

Award of Academic Excellence - Students who earn a 4.0 GPA every semester during his/her three middle school years at Rockwood Valley will receive the Award of Academic Excellence at the 8th Grade Farewell Ceremony. Their name is placed on the perpetual Academic Excellence plaque at school and will be posted on the RVMS website.

Eighth Grade Promotion - At the end of each school year, eighth graders who are leaving RVMS are honored in an Eighth Grade Farewell Event in May during which each student is presented with an Eighth Grade Promotion certificate.

Excalibur Award and Special Award - The Excalibur Award is an award that recognizes students who have demonstrated remarkable work ethic, passion, and a commitment to excellence in their education. Special Awards may also be given to recognize students for excellence in an academic or performance-based competition. Sixth, seventh and eighth graders who earn these awards receive special recognition during the school year.

Honor Rolls - The names of students who have made honor rolls are displayed at school on the Honor Roll recognition board and are posted on the RVMS website.

Knights of the Round Table - Being a Knight of the Round Table is a prestigious honor at Rockwood Valley. Sixth graders or students who are new to RVMS who receive a 3.5 or higher GPA for the fall semester are celebrated as Knights of the Round Table (KORT) during an annual ceremony. In order to remain members of the Knights of the Round Table, students must maintain a 3.5 or better GPA each semester. The names of KORT members are displayed at school on the Knights of the Round Table recognition board and are posted on the RVMS website.

Positive Office Referral - Staff members refer students to a grade level principal for demonstrating good behavior or accomplishing individual achievements. A student who gets a Positive Office Referral will receive a certificate, a special pencil, and/or the opportunity to move to the front of the lunch line for a day. The student is also recognized on the RVMS website.

Student Birthdays - Student birthdays are announced daily. Students whose names are read during morning announcements may come to the office for a birthday pencil.

Students of the Month - Each month all teams recognize students who exemplify academic achievement, attitude, responsibility, citizenship, effort, cooperation, honesty, and leadership. Twenty-two students of the Month are recognized each month. Students' names are also published in the school newsletter and are displayed at school on the Student of the Month recognition board.

Attendance Policy and Procedures

Absence Reporting

When a student is absent from school, parents/guardians are expected to report their absence to the school office or the Attendance Hotline at 636-733-4285. If we do not hear from a parent/guardian by 9:00am, a phone contact attempt will be made.

All absences will be considered unexcused unless verified by a parent/guardian either by phone or in writing upon the child's return to school. Please refer to Rockwood School District Attendance Policy 2310 for additional information.

Absence on the Day of an Activity

Students who are absent from school for the entire day on the day of a music performance, drama performance, dance, or any other school-sponsored after school or evening event will not be able to attend or participate in the event without prior administrative approval. Students who are absent from school for a part of the day due to a doctor or dental appointment may attend and participate in activities with a written doctor or dentist note verifying the date and time of the appointment AND with administrative approval.

Early Dismissal

Attendance at school is a critical part of student success. For this reason, we encourage parents/guardians to make doctor, dental, or other appointments outside of school hours. If it is necessary to make appointments during the school day, parents/guardians should contact the school office with notification of the time and reason for early dismissal. The student will be issued a pass. The pass gives the student permission to leave the classroom at the appropriate time. This will facilitate students being in the office when parents/guardians arrive and will avoid interruption of classroom instructional time.

Late Arrivals

Students arriving late to school must sign in at the Welcome Center or at the hall monitor's station and receive a pass before reporting to the classroom. Students arriving late to school will be marked absent for the amount of time missed.

Make-Up Work

After an absence it is the student's responsibility to see teachers on the day of return to collect missed work. Missed assignments will be due on the next day the student has that class. Flexibility will be given for absences that are longer than one day and exceptions can be made for certain assignments at teacher discretion.

Rockwood Valley General Student Behavior Expectations and Discipline Procedures

Appropriate behavior is expected by all students throughout the school day. Students are responsible for their behavior from the time that they leave home in the morning for school until the time they get home from school in the afternoon.

The classroom teacher is the person in charge of the classroom at all times. When a student does not follow classroom rules and regulations, the teacher will make attempts to correct the behavior through classroom

interventions, student conferences, parent/guardian contacts, or a counselor referral. When misbehavior is persistent or severe, an office referral may occur.

At all times students are expected to:

- Show respect to all staff and students.
- Follow all Rockwood School District and Rockwood Valley expectations and procedures.
- Meet all classroom expectations, including being on time and prepared for class.

When a student does not follow the above expectations, a discipline referral may result. Discipline consequences may include:

- Teacher-student conference
- Team meeting
- Detention
- Parent/guardian contact by phone
- Student-counselor conference
- Student-teacher-counselor conference
- Parent/guardian conference
- Student-principal conference
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspensions
- Alternative learning placement

Personal Electronic Device Guidelines

Students who bring their own personal technology devices (such as smartphones, e-readers, tablets, or laptops) to Rockwood Valley must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Classroom teachers and building administrators will determine when and how personal technology devices can be used. There will be times when the use of these devices will not be allowed. Cameras and voice recording devices may not be used at any time at school or on school buses without specific permission from a staff member.
- When not being used for class as directed by a teacher, devices should be powered off and placed in the student's locker.
- Students are prohibited from using personal technology devices in dressing rooms, locker rooms, or restrooms.
- Students are responsible for appropriate behavior on personal technology devices.
- Technical support of personal technology devices will be the sole responsibility of the student.
- The district will not be responsible or liable for any damage, loss or theft.
- Personal technology devices connected to the district's wireless network will have filtered Internet access.
- The district reserves the right to monitor, log and review all activity on personal technology devices connected to the district network.
- If personal technology devices are used inappropriately and/or become a disruption to the learning environment, the device may be confiscated.
- Access to printing devices will not be provided.
- Students are responsible for charging their own devices and should charge them before arriving at school.
- Consequences for not adhering to these guidelines may be given to students based on the *RVMS Student Handbook* and *Rockwood's Policies, Regulations, Procedures and Consequences Handbook*.

Cell Phones

Prior to the start of the school day, all students will turn off their cell phones and place their phones in their lockers where they will remain for the duration of the school day. Students in possession of a cell phone in class will be addressed as follows:

- Incident 1 - Recorded by the teacher/verbal warning (if using phone in class, go to Incident 2)
- Incident 2 - Cell phone placed on teacher's desk, recorded by teacher, parent contact and optional teacher-assigned detention
- Incident 3+ = Referral to the office

Detention Procedures for Teacher-Assigned Classroom Detentions

If a student's behavior is disruptive, teachers may choose to assign the student to a classroom detention. The procedures for *teacher-assigned* classroom detentions are as follows:

- The classroom teacher will contact the parent/guardian prior to the assigned detention.
- The detention is assigned during lunch time or after school in the teacher's classroom.
- If the consequence is a lunch detention, students must bring a lunch from home or arrange with the teacher to have it provided. Students may not enter the commons during lunchtime on the day of the lunch detention.
- If the consequence is an after school detention, students are responsible for arranging transportation home from school.
- If a student is absent from school on the day of an assigned detention, the detention will be made up on the day he/she returns.
- Tardiness to detention may result in disciplinary action.
- Missing a teacher-assigned detention or misbehaving during a detention will result in referral to the office for disciplinary action. Subsequent offenses will include in or out-of-school suspension.
- Participation in athletics, extra-curricular activities, performances, or work does not excuse a student from an after school detention. Students have the obligation to inform the coach, sponsor, or employer of the after school detention.

Detention Procedures for Office-Assigned Detentions

Students referred to the office for misbehavior may be assigned office detentions. The procedures for *office-assigned* detentions are as follows:

- The detention will be assigned during lunch time or after school in a designated room.
- If the consequence is a lunch detention, students must bring a lunch from home or arrange with the office to have it provided. Students may not enter the commons during lunch on the day of the lunch detention.
- If a student is absent from school on the day of an assigned detention, the detention will be made up on the day he/she returns.
- Tardiness to detention may result in disciplinary action.
- Missing a detention or misbehaving during a detention will result in referral to the office for disciplinary action.
- After school detentions are held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 2:45-3:45 pm.

Dress Code Guidelines

The major responsibility for student dress lies with the parents/guardians. In order to give guidance to Rockwood Valley parents/guardians and students, the following guidelines have been established. Additional guidelines may be imposed in situations where the learning environment or student safety is impacted. When in doubt about clothing, parents/guardians or students are encouraged to check with an administrator before the garment in question is worn to school.

Body/Face Painting: Students are not permitted to paint their body or face.

Clothing with Slogans/Pictures: Clothing that displays slogans or pictures which are obscene or suggestive are not permitted. Any item that carries a slogan/picture representing alcoholic beverages, tobacco and/or its products, narcotics, profane language, violence, sex, hate groups or weapons is prohibited.

Coats/Jackets/Gloves: Students are not to wear coats, jackets, or non-therapeutic gloves or mittens during the school day. These items should be removed and placed in hall lockers or book bags upon arrival at school and remain there during school hours.

Revealing Clothes: Revealing clothing should not be worn at school. Students who wear clothing that is deemed inappropriate will be asked to change to more appropriate clothing.

Shoes: Shoes must be worn at all times at school. House slippers with soft soles are not acceptable.

Sunglasses: Students are not permitted to wear sunglasses while in the building.

Food and Drink Guideline

Specific food and/or drink items may be allowed in classrooms at the discretion of the teacher. Glass bottles are not allowed in the building. Open food or drinks are not allowed in hallways at any time. Students should not bring food or drink to classrooms for class parties.

Forgery Guideline

Students may not falsify documents with the attempt of fraudulent use. For example, students should not falsify their parents/guardians signature for any teacher, Rockwood Valley Middle School, or Rockwood School District forms.

Guest Teacher Behavior Guideline

Exemplary behavior is expected from students at all times, especially during visits from guest teachers. When a student is reported to the classroom teacher by a guest teacher as having been disruptive to the learning environment, the classroom teacher will conference with the student and contact a parent/guardian. The teacher may also assign a classroom detention. Severe or subsequent offenses of guest teacher misbehavior may be referred to the office for additional disciplinary action.

Hallway/Locker Room Behavior Guideline

Students shall not run, push, shove or engage in horseplay in hallways or locker rooms at any time. Students should always conduct themselves appropriately and move in hallways and locker rooms in a safe, respectful, and orderly fashion.

Lunch Procedures

During lunch parents/guardians are discouraged from bringing in outside food (such as meals or birthday treats) that is intended for a specific group of students. Outside food can inadvertently exclude students or cause a disruption.

During lunch shifts students are expected to behave appropriately in the Commons. Students should follow these expectations:

- Be on time to lunch and choose a seat before the bell rings or sit in the student's assigned seat.
- Sit at a lunch table with legs under the table. No more than six students should sit on each side of the table.
- When the bell rings, be quiet and give attention to the person on stage for announcements. Some students may be called to the office. Remain quiet as names are read.
- Staff members will give permission table by table for students to walk to the lunch line.

- Keep hands and feet to yourself in the lunch line. Only touch what you are going to purchase.
- Go through the lunch line only if you are getting food or drink.
- Return directly to the same table. Students may not walk randomly around the Commons to visit with other students.
- Get out of your seat only to throw away trash, get fork/napkins/etc.
- To leave the Commons during lunch to go to the restroom or fill a water bottle, students must first raise their hand and be given permission from the Commons supervisor.
- Dismissal from The Commons is done section by section. Exit commons when your table is dismissed.
- Tables are dismissed one by one. Throw away trash and walk to class. Recycle trash, if possible. No open food or drink items are permitted outside of the Commons.

Selling Items at School Guideline

Only fund-raising items approved by the administration may be sold in school. These items are not to be sold during class. Proceeds for all items sold must be for the benefit of a school organization.

Tardiness to Class Guidelines and Consequences

If a student arrives at school after the 7:47 am bell, office personnel will record the student as *excused absence: late to school* or *unexcused absence: late to school*.

Tardiness to Class

Tardiness to classes other than the first class of the day should be handled by teachers as follows:

- Tardy 1 and 2 - Recorded by the teacher/verbal warning
- Tardy 3 - Teacher parent contact and optional teacher-assigned detention.
- Tardy 4 - Referral to the office for one lunch detention and parent contact.
- Tardy 5 - Referral to the office for two lunch detentions and parent contact
- Tardy 6 - Referral to the office for further consequences/intervention and parent contact

Additional tardiness will result in further consequences/intervention. Tardy count reverts to zero at the end of each quarter.

General Information

Buses

Students who arrive to school by bus must remain on campus and come into the building immediately. In the afternoon, students should board buses in an orderly fashion immediately upon exiting the building. Once on the bus, students must take their seats immediately without excessive noise or horseplay.

Any offense committed by a student on a district owned or contracted bus shall be punished in the same manner as if the offense had been committed at the student's school. In addition, bus riding privileges may be suspended or revoked. Refer to Policy 2652 – Student Transportation for more details.

Dismissal of School Due to Inclement Weather/Emergency

In case of bad weather due to snow and ice, school may be canceled. Rockwood will voice or email messages to telephones, mobile phones, or any Internet-enabled devices. Rockwood can reach parents/guardians within minutes with emergency notifications, school closings due to inclement weather, and other school news. Information is also available on local TV and radio stations or the Rockwood School District website.

Emergency Preparedness

Students are expected to know and follow all emergency preparedness procedures. In addition, they are expected to follow all directions given to them by staff members during fire, earthquake, intruder, and tornado drills.

Evening Events

Evening events that are not school-related public performances, such as dances, are for Rockwood Valley students only. No students from other schools will be admitted. Students attending events are required to follow these procedures:

- Students must remain inside the school until the event has ended.
- Students are not permitted to leave the event early unless a parent/guardian comes into the building and speaks to an administrator or has arranged for an early departure of the student with administration.
- Students should plan transportation home in advance to be picked up promptly at the conclusion of the event.
- All Rockwood and Rockwood Valley rules apply during evening activities.

Extra-Curricular Activities, Clubs, and Intramurals

An activity program is a key component of Rockwood Valley Middle Schools. All students are welcomed and encouraged to stay after school in order to participate in RVMS help sessions, clubs and intramurals. It is our goal that all students are involved in some type of activity, club, or intramural.

The activity program will provide for all students the encouragement and opportunities to participate in a wide range of activities which are based on the interest and physical needs of middle school age children. These activities will focus on the development of social and physical skills in an atmosphere that stresses teamwork and learning the basic requirements of the activity.

Help sessions, clubs and intramurals at Rockwood Valley Middle School will be held after school from 2:45pm-3:45pm, Tuesday and Wednesday, unless otherwise noted. Students may not participate on days that they are serving an in school or out of school suspension.

In order for students to participate, they must meet these requirements:

- Have parent/guardian permission
- Arranging their own transportation home via parent/guardian pick-up, carpool, or activity bus. Students using activity bus are responsible for signing up.
- Report to the designated activity bus meeting area for check-in at the conclusion of the activity period (Activity bus riders only).
- Follow all guidelines established by the sponsor.
- Be present at school for more than half the school day on the day of the activity.

Hall Passes

Students who leave class at a time other than a passing period must complete the electronic hall pass procedures and have permission from the classroom teacher or be with a RVMS staff member.

Instructional Time

Time spent in the classroom is a high priority at Rockwood Valley. Every effort will be made to guard instructional time throughout the school day.

Lockers

Each student is assigned a hallway and gym locker for the storage of school supplies, equipment and clothing. It is the student's responsibility to keep lockers locked and orderly at all times. Do not share lockers or your locker combination. Locker problems should be reported to the Welcome Center. Lockers should be kept clean and organized. Lockers may not be rigged to remain unlocked when closed. Do not paste or glue items to locker doors or walls. No stickers are allowed on locker doors.

Lockers are the property of the school and can be searched at any time. Students are responsible for their assigned locker and all of its contents. Anything found in that locker is the direct responsibility of the student to whom the locker is assigned. Students should not put his/her belongings in any other locker but the one they have been assigned to use.

Lost and Found

Every effort will be made to return misplaced items. Lost valuables (such as eyeglasses and cell phones) are kept in the Welcome Center.

Nurse Information

Your school nurses are here to help keep students safe, healthy, and in class, ready to learn. School nurses work with students, teachers, and parents to manage chronic health conditions and deal with illnesses and injuries at school. School nurses are the connection between healthcare and education, serving as a resource for school staff on issues that may impact learning, providing care and comfort to support student success. The Nurse's Office is located in the front hallway, between the Main Office and Counseling Office.

Parent's Role

- Every year, update the Annual Student Health Information [ASHI] form. Your signed consent
- on this form authorizes the school nurse to provide routine care at school for minor needs.
- 6th grade students, and any student new to Rockwood in any grade, are required to turn in a
- physical exam signed by your doctor and an immunization record.
- Any time your child receives immunizations, at any grade level, please submit a copy so the
- school health file stays up-to-date.
- 8th grade students are required by the state to have specific immunizations on file at school.
- If your child has specific health care needs, please contact the nurse to discuss a plan of care. This includes all students with food allergies, diabetes, seizures, asthma and any other condition requiring medication or emergency actions.
- Please do not assume that your middle school nurse will automatically know the details of your child's health history. While basic health history does advance with your child from school to school, it is the parent's responsibility to notify the school nurse of current needs.

When can my child see the nurse?

Except for an emergency or planned procedure, students must obtain permission and a pass from a teacher to leave class to see the nurse. In general, early morning symptoms should be handled at home by parents, not immediately on arrival to school. If you have sent your child to school, we presume you expect them to attend class.

When do I need to pick up a sick child?

If the nurse finds your child is too ill to remain in school, you will hear directly from the nurse. Student cell phones make communication a challenge! Rest assured, if the nurse wants you to come, the nurse will contact you. If you get a message from your child that he/she is sick and needs to be picked up, please send them to the nurse first or call school before coming. Any student leaving during the school day due to illness needs will be seen by the nurse first. Unless there is a fever or obvious illness, it is always your choice to take your child home.

If I've given consent for medication, why do I still get a call?

Even if the ASHI consent form is signed, it is important that parents are informed of a child's symptoms, treatment and time out of class. Generally, the nurse or your student will make a call to let you know that a standing order medication has been given.

Can the nurse give prescription medicine?

It is the policy of the Board of Education that the giving of medicine to students during school hours be discouraged and restricted to medication that cannot be given on an alternative schedule. Of course, some students do require medication for chronic or short-term illness/injury or disabling condition during the school day to enable them to remain in school and participate in their education. If your child needs medication [other than routine "standing order" over-the-counter meds on the ASHI], the district requires written authorization from a physician [or prescription label] as well as a parent. Medications must be provided in the original, labeled pharmacy bottle.

When should I keep my child at home?

- A child with a fever should not be sent to school until the temperature has been under 100 degrees for 24 hours without fever reducing medication
- A child diagnosed with a strep infection must be treated with antibiotics for a full 24 hours before returning to school.
- A child with a rash of unknown origin must be checked by a doctor before attending school to assure that the rash is not contagious.
- A child experiencing recent vomiting or diarrhea should be kept at home until feeling well enough to function in class without interruption or worry.

Parent/Guardian-School Communication Protocols

The Rockwood School District has guidelines that allow for fairness and consistency as we serve our students and families. Our school community understands that clear, two-way communication is a vital component to a healthy school environment. If you have a question or concern, please follow this communication protocol:

1. Talk with the teacher or guidance counselor at your child's school.
2. Contact your school principal and/or assistant principal
3. Contact the executive director of secondary education, or the members of the Superintendent's cabinet.
4. Share your concerns with the superintendent.

If your concern has not been resolved at those levels, citizens are invited to send a written request to the Board secretary to be filed with the Board of Education. Patrons may also call or email Board of Education members or share a patron comment at a Board meeting.

Telephones

Parents/guardians are discouraged from texting or calling their student's cell phone during school hours. Phones are available in the Welcome Center for student use. If necessary, students are encouraged to use these phones before and after school or during lunch. Students who need to make a phone call during a class may obtain a pass to the office from the classroom teacher, or may use the classroom phone with the teacher's permission.

All after school plans should be made before arriving to school. Should an incoming emergency phone message for students be left with school personnel, an attempt will be made to relay the message as quickly as possible.

Textbooks

Textbooks will be issued at the beginning of the year. A record of the book number, condition of the book, and the name of the student to whom it was issued will be kept using the Destiny textbook inventory program. Students should use ink or permanent marker to write his/her name on the inside front cover of the textbooks that are issued to them.

Any damage in a book should be brought to the attention of the teacher when the book is issued. Damaged or lost books will be the responsibility of the student to whom the book was issued. It is the responsibility of each student to return books at the end of the year in usable condition with only typical wear and tear.

Visits During the School Day

Parents/Guardians are always welcome at Rockwood Valley Middle School. However, due to safety concerns, guidelines for visits have been established. Parents/Guardians who plan to visit their children during the school day, must pre-arrange their visit with an administrator. Classroom visits should be planned with a minimum on one school day's notice, and no visits will be allowed on the days before holiday breaks or during the last week of school. Between the hours of 7:47am and 2:39pm, all visitors must enter the building through the main entrance and stop at the Welcome Center to sign in and receive a visitor's badge for identification.

All lunchtime visits are scheduled at the discretion of the principals and should also be pre-arranged. During lunch parents/guardians are discouraged from bringing in outside food (such as meals or birthday treats) that is intended for a specific group of students. Outside food can inadvertently exclude students or cause a disruption.

Volunteers

Between the hours of 7:47am and 2:39pm, all parent/guardian volunteers must enter the building through the main entrance and stop by the Welcome Center to sign-in and receive a visitor's badge for identification.