



RUSK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK APPENDIX

2021-2022

495 Eagle Drive

Mailing: 203 East 7th Street

Rusk, TX 75785

903-683-5401

www.ruskisd.net/rusk-high-school

School Day: 7:45 am – 3:20 pm

7:30 am – Doors open. Upon arrival to campus, students will meet in the commons area or breezeway or any other designated area, as needed.

7:45 – 7:55: Breakfast/Tutorials

3:20 pm – Dismissal. All students are required to leave campus at dismissal unless involved in tutoring, extra-curricular activity, student group etc. sponsored by a teacher or high school staff member.

Tardy Guidelines

Rusk ISD believes all students should be on-time for school and each class period throughout the school day. The purpose of the student tardy guideline is:

- To ensure that students maximize all learning opportunities.
- To ensure that teachers maximize all teaching opportunities.
- To ensure that administrators and others maintain a safe and orderly climate that focuses on punctual student attendance and student achievement.

After the bell rings the halls will be swept by administrators, monitors, teachers and/or an appointed designee.

Tardy Consequences

Number of Tardies to Class	Tardy Consequences
1st – 5th tardy	Warning/Conference with student/parent or guardian***
6th – 7th tardy	Lunch Detention per occurrence
8th – 9th tardy	Saturday School
10+ tardy	ISS or corporal punishment per occurrence

***Note: Per semester examination exemption policy, after 5 tardies, student(s) will lose exemption status.

The tardy policy's progressive discipline plan is:

A tardy occurs when a student has not arrived to school/class at a pre-determined time to begin instruction. Tardies are recorded from period 1 to period 9 and will accumulate throughout the 9-weeks. All "late arrivals" are counted as tardies and will be subject to tardy consequences as stated above.

Students not in their assigned class 1-minute after the warning bell will be considered tardy. Students arriving more than 15 minutes late to class will be counted absent. Repeated instances of tardiness will result in more severe disciplinary action, in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Non-Discrimination Notice: Rusk ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or genetic information.

Notificacion de No-Discriminacion: Rusk ISD no discrimina sobre la base de raza, color, origen nacional, edad, sexo, religion, discapacidad, o informacion genetica

Tardies are **cumulative**, not per class period, and will reset at the completion of each 9-weeks. Excessive tardies can be subject to mandatory attendance laws.

Perfect Attendance: Requires a student be present the full day, 7:45 am – 3:20 pm, with no absences (excused or unexcused), late arrivals, or early leaves. All campuses will notify parents regarding excessive tardies and early leaves. This notification may be done through conference or letter and will include that 5 leave releases = 1 day absent for compulsory attendance.

Cafeteria: Rusk High School is a closed campus, meaning students may not leave campus during the instructional day without approval. Rusk ISD will provide free breakfast and lunch to all students.

Lunch A 11:14 AM – 11:44 AM

Lunch Schedule: Lunch B 12:08 PM – 12:38 PM

Lunch C 1:02 PM – 1:32 PM

Dress: The district's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards. Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the following:

1. Wearing articles of clothing or jewelry that promote gangs, racial division, hate, alcohol, tobacco, or drugs as defined by the principal or principal's designee is prohibited;
2. Clothing with language, pictures, or drawings which may be interpreted to be inappropriate/obscene will not be acceptable. Any representation (picture or words) of negative entertainers (music, actors, sex symbols, etc.) will not be acceptable and will be determined by the principal or principal's designee;
3. Refrain from immodest dress. A few examples might include but are not limited to the following:
 - a) Strapless dresses/tops, sundresses, see-through material;
 - b) Tank tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps (tops must be at least three inches on the shoulder), low cut dresses, low cut blouses;
 - c) Inappropriate sleeveless shirt or mini-skirts;
 - d) Clothing which reveals a bare midriff when arms are extended in the air;
 - e) Leggings, jeggings and tights must be covered by a non-see-through fabric and appropriate length garment.
4. Head-dress articles will not be permitted at school unless specific permission is provided by the principal or principal's designee. A few examples might include but are not limited to the following: curlers, caps, hats, hoods, shirts, animal ears or other head ornaments.
5. Sunglasses (except by written permission of physician) or improper eyewear will not be permitted unless specific permission is provided by the principal or principal's designee;
6. All shirts, blouses or any top garment must be buttoned appropriately;
7. Shoes must be worn at all times. Socks are required when appropriate. House shoes or shoes with wheels are not allowed. Stilettos are not allowed;
8. Belts are required as needed. No sagging pants or shorts as determined by principal or principal's designee.

9. Holes or ragged/frayed areas in clothing must be at the knee or below. Areas above the knee must be patched or have an undergarment (no skin showing). Any holes above the thigh is prohibited regardless of patch or undergarment.
10. Shorts cannot be spandex or plastic and must be of acceptable length as determined by the principal or principal's designee. Cut offs are not allowed.
11. Unusual or non-traditional jewelry will not be permitted, (examples include, but are not limited to – tongue rings, nose rings, eyebrow rings, including clear ornaments; items with negative connotations). Spacers are prohibited, as well.
12. Any attire considered in poor taste or judged to be a possible disruption as determined by the principal or principal's designee will not be allowed.
13. Pajamas, swimming suits and any night time attire are not permitted. Exceptions to the dress code may be made for special events such as pep rallies, spirit day, etc.
14. Tattoos that are gang related and insignias are forbidden. Other tattoos must be covered at all times upon the discretion of the principal or principal's designee.
15. All garments must meet minimum length requirements. The test for this requirement will be as follows. Students with shoulders not lifted (possibly against the wall) shall extend their arms down their sides to determine garment length. The bottom hem of the garment must be middle fingertip length or longer. Garment will be measured at the top of a slit if one is present (shortest area of garment).

If the principal determines that a student's grooming or clothing violates the school's dress code, the student will be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. If not corrected, the student may be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day, until the problem is corrected, or until a parent or designee brings an acceptable change of clothing to the school. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Grooming: Cleanliness and proper grooming are necessary for the students to project a positive image and personal appearance effects behavior. Because of the importance of appearance, RISD has established these guidelines to be followed:

1. Unusual hairstyle considered to be disruptive will not be permitted. Examples include but are not limited to the following: Hair coloring that is unnatural, style, length, fad haircuts, lines, designs, ponytails and Mohawks. All styles considered to be potentially disruptive cannot be listed; therefore, the principal or principal's designee will determine whether a particular style is to be considered disruptive and inappropriate.
2. Facial Hair. Beards, goatees, mustaches, excessive sideburns or other facial hair that may be determined inappropriate by the principal or principal's designee will not be permitted.
3. Unusual facial make-up or adornments that may be considered to be a possible disruption will not be allowed as determined by the principal or principal's designee.

Students who are found to be in violation of the school dress code and grooming standards will be required to comply or face disciplinary action. It is the responsibility of teachers and administrators to judge the appropriateness of a student's attire and personal grooming. Students are encouraged to ask the opinion of school administrators before purchasing questionable clothing or changing personal appearance in a way, which according to these guidelines, might be considered inappropriate.

If the principal determines that a student's grooming or clothing violates the school's dress code, the student will be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. If not corrected, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day, until the problem is correct, or until a parent or designee performs an acceptable solution. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Lunch Application: Please refer to Rusk ISD website Family/Student Access, under Food Service Applications.

Cell Phones: Cell phones and Smart Watches (including Fit Bits etc.) are to be turned off and in the student's backpack during the school day. If a student uses their phone during class or their phone buzzes/rings during class, the phone will be taken up by the teacher.

Offenses will be handled as follows:

- 1st offense: Meet with Principal (Verbal Warning)
- 2nd offense: Parent must pick up phone from school.
- 3rd offense: Parent must pick up phone from school and pay a \$15 fine to release the phone.
- 4th + offense: Student will be placed in ISS plus parent must pick up phone from school and pay a \$15 fine to release the phone.

Students are allowed to use their cell phones before school, during lunch, and during passing periods.

Doctor's Notes for After an Absence for Illness: When a student's absence for personal illness exceeds three consecutive days, the student/parent will be required to present a statement from a physician or health clinic verifying the illness or condition that caused the student's extended absence from school.

Guidelines for Pre-AP and AP Extracurricular Eligibility: Students enrolled in Pre-AP and/or AP courses will be required to meet the following guidelines in order to participate in extracurricular activities.

1. A student enrolled in a Pre-AP or AP class who has an average below 60 at the nine weeks grading period will lose extracurricular eligibility. The student becomes ineligible the Friday after report cards are released at 3:00 PM.
2. Eligibility will be checked the following Friday at 3:00 PM to regain eligibility status. If the student's average is not passing at that point they are ineligible until the next regular check for UIL eligibility.

If a student's average falls below 55 the student may be removed from the Pre-AP and/or AP class and placed in a more appropriate class.

Additional Information is available in the Rusk ISD Student Handbook on the Rusk ISD website.

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