RIVER BLUFF HIGH SCHOOL
Palmetto's Finest
An EL Education Credentialed School
Est. 2013

320 Corley Mill Road
Lexington, SC 29072
803-821-0700 Main Office
803-821-0703 Fax

FAMILY AND STUDENT HANDBOOK
2026-2027

Meg Huggins, Principal
Jennifer N. Casto, Director for Student Life
Andrew J. Peckham, Athletic Director
Keith M. Britton, Assistant Principal
Britt H. Collins, Assistant Principal
Terrence L. Harris, Assistant Principal
Jamie Powell, Assistant Principal
Kathryn C. Robinson, Assistant Principal
Kelly R. Smoak, Assistant Principal
Joe Ben Watson, Director for Counseling and Advisement

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Lexington County School District One is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all students, parents/legal guardians, staff, visitors, personnel and community members who participate or seek to participate in its programs or activities. Therefore, the district does not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, or any related medical conditions), color, disability, age, genetic information, national origin, or any other applicable status protected by local, state, or federal law.

The district will use the grievance procedures set forth in policy to process complaints based on alleged violations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; the Equal Pay Act of 1963; the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008; and Titles I and II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The district designates these people to handle inquiries or complaint

Contents

LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE'S MISSION and VISION: **5**
- VISION 5
- MISSION 5

RIVER BLUFF HIGH SCHOOL **6**
- Vision 6
- Mission 6
- Motto 6
- Core Values 6

ACADEMIC PROGRAM **6**

HABITS OF SUCCESS (Core Values) **7**
- *Work hard.* *7*
- *Get smart.* *7*
- *Do good.* *7*

CREW **7-8**

FLEXIBLE MODULAR (FLEX MOD) SCHEDULE **9**
- Independent Learning Time (ILT) 10
- Structured Learning Time (SLT) 11

STUDENT BEHAVIOR STANDARDS **11**
- Principal Leadership Distribution 11
  - 9-12 Grades 11
- School Counselor Distribution 12
- After School Detention 12
- Behavior that Disrupts Class 12
- Disrespect 13
- Cellular Telephones/Other Personal Communications Devices 13-14
- District Issued Devices 14-15
- Major Offenses 14
  - Major Offenses may be addressed as follows: 14
- Dress Code 15-16
  - Discipline for Dress Code Offenses 15
    - The following items are not appropriate to be worn to school: 15-16
- River Café and Café 320 16
- Bullying and Hazing 16
- Drug Policy 17
- Technology 17
- Larceny/Theft 17
- Bus Violations 17

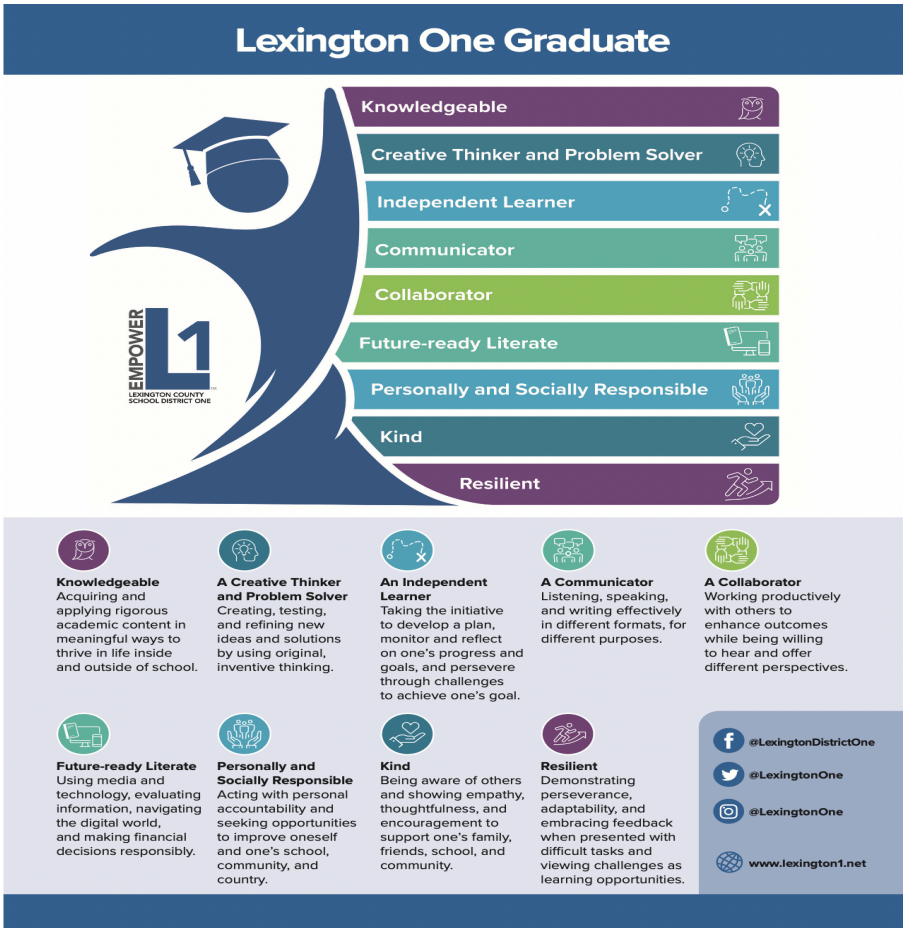
Use of Tobacco Products 17-18
Driving and Parking on Campus 18-19
Student Identification Badges (IDs) 19
Miscellaneous 20-21
Fighting 21
Examples of Student Conduct Which Will Result in Out-of-School Suspension 21
Examples of Student Conduct Which May Result in Recommendation for Expulsion 22
Examples of Student Conduct Which Will Result in Recommendation for Expulsion 22
ACADEMIC HONOR CODE **23**
LOCKERS **24**
DELIVERIES TO STUDENTS **24**
VALUABLES **24**
LEARNING COMMONS **24**
MEDICATION POLICY **24**
ATTENDANCE **25**
Absences and Excuses 25
Excused Absences 25-26
Lawful Absences 26
Unlawful Absences 26
Truancy 26
SEARS (School Extension for At-Risk Students) Program 27
Procedure for Turning In Excuses for Absences 27
Procedures for Signing Students In and Out of School 27
Doctor/Dentist Appointment 27
Tardies 28
Failing to Sign In Upon Arrival at School 28
Tardy to Class and School 28
Cutting Class 28
Fraudulent Medical Notes 28
LEAVING CAMPUS WITHOUT PERMISSION 29
ADDITIONAL ATTENDANCE INFORMATION 29
MAKEUP WORK 29
FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE 30
SCHEDULE **31**
PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS 31
FACTS ABOUT RIVER BLUFF HIGH SCHOOL 32

LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE'S MISSION:

MISSION

To guide all students to grow, learn, and excel.

By implementing the Lexington One Graduate Profile, Lexington One challenges and supports all students to excel.



Lexington One creates a positive and supportive culture that empowers employees to model and students to develop the Lexington One Graduate profile attributes.

In order to ensure all students attain the Lexington One Graduate Profile, Lexington One prioritizes strategies for the use of resources, including talent, time, facilities, finances, and technology.

RIVER BLUFF HIGH SCHOOL

Vision

To create a community of learners where passionate educators and students are collectively challenged within a flexible environment to see personal achievement thrive, through character, leadership, and growth mindset while contributing to both a local and global society.

Mission

Support students and teachers and all whom they influence collectively in their pursuit of excellence within a collaborative learning culture engaged in graduating citizen scholars committed to "building a better world".

Motto

Work hard. Get smart. Do good.

Core Values

Personal Responsibility, Growth Mindset, Collaboration and Relationships, Excellence, Citizenship

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

River Bluff High School's courses are arranged so that students are heterogeneously grouped to maximize the social construction of meaning in an academically rigorous environment. Course offerings reflect our commitment to interdisciplinary connections between courses, and teachers utilize common instructional practices to support students' learning (including the active use of learning targets, checking for understanding throughout the class, intentional debriefs/summaries at the end of class, and regular homework that builds upon the day's lesson or prepares for the following day's work). Students practice new and developing skills through the workshop model of instruction, make real-world connections with our community through the use of experts and fieldwork, and are guided through curricular units that promote inquiry, rigor, and engagement. Curricular units in all courses utilize diverse strategies to engage students in authentic, standards-based learning experiences.

River Bluff's Habits of Success align with Lexington County School District One's Graduate Profile competencies: Knowledgeable, Creative Thinker and Problem Solver, Independent Learner, Communicator, Collaborator, Future-ready Literate, Personally and Socially Responsible, Kind, Resilient. These Habits of Success and competency skills are vital to each student's post secondary success and the RBHS academic program is designed to ensure all students develop and master these skills.

HABITS OF SUCCESS (Core Values)

Work hard.

Independent learner
Collaborator
Resilient

Get smart.

Knowledgeable
Creative thinker and problem solver
Communicator
Future-ready literate

Do good.

Personally and socially responsible
Kind

CREW

All students and teachers will be a part of CREW, which will direct the course of learning – literally taking the wheel. Just as crew on a ship, students will not just be "along for the ride." They are responsible for where the journey leads. Through teamwork, students will not only grow as a learner but also as a person.

Students will be part of a 15-20 student CREW that will meet 5 days a week throughout the school year. The CREW experience will be supervised by a CREW leader. CREW leaders will facilitate daily activities but will not drive them. In CREW, all will have leadership opportunities as part of a team.

The purpose of CREW is to help develop life skills including confidence, responsibility, respect, honesty, communication, and personal and academic drive. It will provide students with a safe place to explore, share, create, make mistakes, reflect, learn, prepare, and celebrate. The small size of CREW will help students connect with their CREW leader and fellow classmates on a personal and positive level. Forming bonds and relationships will build community and guide overall academic success at River Bluff High School.

During CREW, students will work on:

- ➢ Building relationships
- ➢ Strengthening literacy
- ➢ Providing service

- ➢ Exploring adventure and fitness opportunities
- ➢ Preparing for college or post-secondary careers
- ➢ Handling school business

Students are not passengers; in CREW, students are part of a family that will redefine what it means to be a learning community that truly supports and challenges one another at River Bluff High School.

At River Bluff, We Are CREW.

FLEXIBLE MODULAR (FLEX MOD) SCHEDULE

River Bluff's Innovative Flexible Modular (FLEX MOD) Schedule was updated in 2021-2022 to consist of a school day with 17 modules (mods). Each day of the week consists of combinations of the classes into 8 paths of instruction to encompass the entire school day.

The schedule consists of a five-day cycle that repeats 36 times. Each course (1 credit) meets 210 minutes a week within one path, distributed into one of two phases (A or B) of instruction, meeting either three days (B Phase) a week or four days (A Phase) a week. The remaining mods of time within a student's schedule that is not scheduled into face-to-face instruction is Independent Learning Time (ILT). C1 and C2 within the middle band of our schedule are where students meet in their grade level CREWs.

Why Flex Mod?

Successful Outcomes for Students (Independent Learning Time – ILT)

- Trust is built by allowing students to make independent choices about academic work; students become self – directed decision makers
- Spirit of collaboration amongst peers and with teachers
- Access to (multiple) teachers in real-time during the school day
- Ability to complete some work during the time with access to teachers and peers
- Managing non-instructional appointments (counseling, iPad technology) without interrupting class time

Successful Outcomes for Teachers (Independent Learning Time – ILT)

- Trust is built by scheduling every teacher time to work with course-specific collaborative teams during the school day in schedule mods of collaborative planning
- Spirit of collaboration amongst peers within other departments
- Access to (multiple) students in real-time during the school day
- Managing non-instructional appointments (IEPs and 504s) without interrupting class time

The 2025-2026 schedule template can be found at the end of this document.

Independent Learning Time (ILT)

A leading objective in a flexibly scheduled high school is to offer opportunities to students for self-direction. We believe that modular scheduling provides students with the opportunity to learn to make wise decisions about where to spend their unstructured time. The teachers and administrative staff feel most students are mature enough to use unstructured time properly and to accept the responsibilities that accompany this privilege. Independent Learning Time refers to that time when students are not assigned to a classroom and when students themselves will direct the use of their time through selecting one of the options open to them.

ILT Locations

Administrative Office Appointments

Collaborative Commons

- English - Upper A and Upper B
- Social Studies - Main and Upper A
- Science - Main B
- Career and Technology Education (CATE) - Upper B or Main D
- Special Education - Main C or teacher's classroom
- Math – Main and Lower C
- World Language - Lower D
- Fine Arts – F wing
- Physical Education – G wing
- Counseling and Advisement – Counseling Commons
- Café' 320
- River Café
- Learning Commons / Library (See norms posted in location)
- Gymnasium during C1 & C2 (See norms posted in location)

ILT Norms

- ➢ Honor time and keep appointments.
- ➢ Leave no trace.
- ➢ Respect others who are working.
- ➢ Use time wisely.
- ➢ Collaborate with teachers, classmates, and other students.
- ➢ Hold each other accountable.
- ➢ Stay in designated areas. *(Designated areas are Collaborative Commons, Learning Commons/Library, Counseling Commons, River Café, Café 320, Gymnasium, and other areas by appointment- art studios, science labs, classrooms, and work out areas)*
- ➢ Eating should only take place in River Cafe, Cafe 320, Collaborative Commons, and/or the Courtyard.
- ➢ There should not be any gathering of large groups on the academic wings. Academic wings should only be used as the extension of the classroom.

Structured Learning Time (SLT)

SLT is a support structure/place that selected students will report to after evaluating their past and current academic progress, needs, and goals. SLT is placed on a student's schedule after recommendation by administration and/or school counselors. Students will report to SLT to work on their academic needs and receive support. A staff member will help facilitate the learning and serve as a liaison between the student and the student's teachers.

There are different types of SLT for students at River Bluff. Content SLT is for students needing to engage in Credit Recovery and/or Initial Credit courses through our Edmentum platform in Math, English, or Social Studies. ESOL SLT is for English Language Learners to engage in additional support structures. Finally, Restorative SLT is a support structure for students that need additional support in using personal responsibility to manage their time wisely during ILT. When a student shows improvement and maintains a level of expected performance, then their ILT will gradually be added back to their schedule. It is the goal of Restorative SLT, for students to realize they will be held accountable for their education while learning proper academic and behavioral habits.

All *SLT sessions will be part of the student's schedule and not showing up for the sessions will incur the same consequences as not going to any other class. Attendance will be taken for all scheduled SLT sessions and unexcused absences will be sent to the student's administrator for discipline.*

STUDENT BEHAVIOR STANDARDS

The RBHS leadership team and faculty expect the behavior of students at River Bluff High School to reflect the educational goals of the school. No student has the right to interfere with the education of fellow students. It is the responsibility of each student to respect the rights and property of teachers, students, administrators, counselors, and all others who are involved in the educational process. The leadership team and faculty expect all students to adhere to the Habits of Success and norms, as well as school and district policy for student behavior.

Disciplinary consequences are outlined below; however, consequences may be adjusted. A school administrator will look at the circumstances and facts of a discipline situation and assign the consequence he/she deems appropriate.

Principal Leadership Distribution

9-12 Grades

Last names A-Co	Kathryn Robinson	krobinson@lexington1.net
Last names Cr-Hn	Britt Collins	bcollins@lexington1.net
Last names Ho-Mn	Keith Britton	kbritton@lexington1.net
Last names Mo-Sh	Terrence Harris	tlharris@lexington1.net
Last names Si-Z	Kelly Smoak	ksmoak@lexington1.net

School Counselor Distribution

Traveling students, LOOLA students, OCP, CC2, & CC3 students (including all students who attend LTC or other high schools)

Joe Ben Watson	jbwatson@lexington1.net

Students in their 1st or 2nd year of high school (typically 9th & 10th graders)

Last names A-Gar	Melissa Turner	mwturner@lexington1.net
Last names Gas-O	Marcus Bryan	mbryan@lexington1.net
Last names P-Z	Akiko Colbert	acolbert1@lexington1.net

Students in their 3rd and 4th (or greater) year of high school (typically 11th & 12th graders)

Last names A-Gar	Gretchen Crosswell	gcrosswell@lexington1.net
Last names Gas-O	Crystal Wingate	cwingate@lexington1.net
Last names P-Z	Emily McGrew	emcgrew@lexington1.net

After School Detention

Afternoon Times: 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM on Tuesday and Thursday in the Lecture Hall (F202)

Behavior that Disrupts Class

Disruption of class

1st Offense: Conference/Warning/Intervention

2nd Offense: 1 After School Detention

3rd Offense: Detention or Suspension

Disrespect

Disrespectful behavior toward staff members will not be tolerated. Examples of unacceptable behaviors include disobedience, making inappropriate comments, failing to follow instructions, etc.

1st Offense: Detention/Suspension

2nd Offense: Suspension

3rd Offense: Recommendation for expulsion

Cellular Telephones/Other Personal Communications Devices

As required by state law, effective January 7, 2025, students are not permitted to use personal electronic devices during school hours.

Important definitions in the policy: Personal electronic devices are any device that is utilized to access the internet, wi-fi, cellular telephone signals, or to capture images or video. This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smart watches, tablets, and gaming devices. "Personal electronic device accessories" include any wired or wireless accessory or wearable technology that connects to a device and any other accessory commonly used in conjunction with a personal electronic device.

High school students may possess personal electronic devices/accessories as long as the devices remain off and are not visible during the school day. Students are not permitted to access personal electronic devices or personal electronic device accessories during the school day (start of first class through the end of the last class to include the time between classes and during lunch). Personal communication devices are not permitted to be used in locker rooms, restrooms, or other personal spaces at any time.

Access: Viewing, holding, wearing, or otherwise using a device for the purpose of communication, internet access, gaming, recording, or any other function commonly associated with devices.

School Day: Period of time between the morning tardy bell/start time and dismissal bell/dismissal time at the end of the instructional day.

Teachers and administrators will only enforce consequences for students whose devices or accessories are visible or heard.

Consequences will be as follows:

First Offense: Warning. Student/Parent conference held.
Second Offense: Detention. Student/Parent conference held.
Third Offense: One Day ISS. Student/Parent conference held.
Fourth Offense: One day OSS. Student/Parent conference held. Student is prohibited from possessing a device at school.
Fifth Offense: Recommendation for expulsion.

**The board recognizes that enforcement of this policy during non-instructional times presents challenges for school staff. Therefore, during class changes and at lunch if a high school student is not

complying with this policy, he/she will be asked to power off their personal electronic device/accessory and put it away. If a student does not comply with this directive, he/she will be referred to an administrator for failure to obey

Exceptions to this policy are listed in the Lexington 1 Student Handbook

District Issued Devices

Lexington County School District One utilizes district-issued student computing devices to support teaching and learning in all schools. Students in Grades 9–12 are issued MacBooks.

These devices are essential tools that enable students to engage in digital learning, complete and submit assignments, collaborate with peers and teachers, and access a wide range of educational resources. While device use varies by grade level, all students are expected to follow district guidelines for responsible use and care when using a district-issued device.

The Lexington School District One Student Device Handbook offers important information for students and their families on how to take care of the device, use it responsibly, and understand the rules and expectations that come with having access to this technology. All device use is governed by district policies and procedures, including the district's Acceptable Use Policy and other applicable board policies.

Minor Offenses

- Illegal installation or transmission of copyrighted materials
- Unauthorized use of Internet or computer games
- Downloading inappropriate applications
- Students are not allowed to give out personal information, for any reason, over the Internet

The district can use any of the following disciplinary consequences when addressing minor offenses, while taking into consideration the nature of the incident and prior technology offenses:

1st Offense: Conference/Warning/Intervention
2nd Offense: 1 After School Detention
3rd Offense: Detention or Suspension

Major Offenses

- Action violating existing board policy or public law
- Deleting district system applications and changing personal mobile computing device settings (exceptions include personal settings such as font size, brightness, etc.)
- Sending, transmitting, accessing, uploading, downloading, or distributing obscene, offensive, profane, threatening, pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit materials
- Use of chat rooms or sites selling term papers, book reports, and other forms of student work
- Spamming (disruptive email or messages)

- Gaining access to another student's accounts, files, and/or data
- Use of the school's Internet or email accounts for financial gain, commercial gain, or any illegal activity
- Vandalism (any malicious attempt to harm or destroy (district issued device)
- Transmission or access of obscene, offensive, or threatening materials or materials intended to harass or demean
- Bypassing the Lexington County School District One Web filter through a Web proxy

Major Offenses may be addressed as follows:

1st Offense: 1–3 days OSS and intervention session
2nd Offense: 3 days OSS and intervention session
3rd Offense: Recommendation for expulsion and appropriate law enforcement intervention

The administration reserves the right to handle any of the above actions or any other action determined to misuse of technology in the manner they feel is the most appropriate for all concerned.

For additional information on acceptable use of technology, please refer to the Lexington County School District One Technology Acceptable Use Policy.

Dress Code

Individual schools may have more specific and restrictive dress codes if the school's administrators recommend it and if the superintendent or his/her designee approves it. Each school's administration will make the final judgment on the appropriateness of any student's dress and reserves the right to prohibit students from wearing any article of clothing or accessory which may result in the disruption of the school environment. Enforcement of the dress code will be handled with dignity, discretion, and respect toward all students by school staff members throughout the district.

- Students are required to wear their district issued photographic identification badge or a sanctioned temporary badge as set forth in district policy JICDBB-R.
- Proper shoes must be worn at all times for safety reasons.
- Students may wear special dress or costume for specific events or special occasions during the school day when approved by the principal.
- Students of any body type/size may wear shorts, dresses, skirts, etc., whose length is no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Students' tops must be long enough that they can be tucked into pants or shorts..
- Students must wear their pants at the waistline.

Each student and his/her parent/guardian are responsible for that student's dress and appearance.

If there is a disagreement between students and/or parents/legal guardians and the staff regarding the appropriateness of clothing, the administration will use discretion to make the decision.

Discipline for Dress Code Offenses

1st Offense: Student conference held. Student changes attire.

2nd Offense: Student/Parent conference held. Student changes attire.

3rd Offense: Student/Parent conference held. Student changes attire. The student will be assigned detention.

4th Offense: & Beyond Student/Parent conference held. Student changes attire. Student receives in-school or out of school suspension. Continued violations may result in a recommendation for expulsion.

***If a student refuses to change into appropriate attire, the student will receive a consequence for refusal to obey.**

The following items are not appropriate to be worn at school:

1) Logos or clothing including head coverings that promote alcohol, drugs, tobacco, hate, gang affiliation, violence, nudity, or profanity is not allowed. No clothing or accessories are allowed to disrupt the educational process.
2) Proper shoes must be worn at all times for safety reasons.
3) Undergarments that are visible.
4) Clothing or accessories that could pose a safety risk to the student or others.
5) Students may not wear hats, head stockings, or headbands. Some classes require that students wear safety hats. Religious headgear is allowed. *Items will be confiscated and returned to the parent.*
6) Hoods on garments should not be worn inside the building.

River Café and Café 320

1) Breaking in line or allowing a student to break in line without teacher or administrator permission is prohibited.
   1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
   Detention/Suspension all offenses beyond the 1st
2) Leaving trash on the cafeteria tables upon completion of the meal.
   1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
   Detention/Suspension all offenses beyond the 1st
3) Students throwing objects/food in the cafeteria.
   1 - 3 Days of Suspension
4) Students stealing food from the serving line.
   1 - 3 Days of Suspension

Bullying and Hazing

Refer to the *Lexington School District One Student/Parent Handbook.*

Drug Policy

Refer to the *Lexington School District One Student/Parent Handbook.*

Technology

Refer to the *Lexington School District One Student/Parent Handbook.*

Larceny/Theft

Out-of-School Suspension and School-Based Probation/Recommendation for Expulsion

Bus Violations

The school bus is an extension of school. Therefore, the board expects students to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with the established standards for safety and classroom behavior. All bus riders must cooperate fully with the bus driver, respect other students, and adhere to all bus rules. To ensure a safe and respectful environment for all riders, bus discipline will be aligned with the school's behavioral standards.. All students are expected to follow the same behavioral expectations on the bus as they do at school. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including suspension of bus privileges.

Use of Tobacco Products/Vaping

Students are not allowed to smoke or possess tobacco products, lighters, matches, e-cigarettes/vapes/juuls, look-alike tobacco products, and look-alike alternative nicotine products while under the supervision of the school. This includes all points on school property, extra-curricular activities, and while on school buses or field trips supervised by the school. Items will be confiscated and not returned.

First Offense:

- Items will be confiscated and not returned
- Administrator conference with parent/legal guardian
- Referral to law enforcement
- One day out-of-school Suspension.
- Student will be required to complete an online tobacco/vaping cessation program while in ISS. The student's failure to complete the mandatory tobacco/vaping cessation program will result in an additional day of out-of-school suspension.
- Suspension from extracurricular activities

Second Offense:

- Items will be confiscated and not returned
- Administrator conference with parent/legal guardian
- Two days out-of-school suspension
- Referral to law enforcement

- Student will be assigned to a mandatory tobacco/vaping cessation program through LRADAC. An alternate tobacco/vaping cessation program may substitute for LRADAC with prior approval from the Office of Student Services. The student's failure to complete the mandatory tobacco/vaping cessation program will result in an additional day of out-of-school suspension.
- Suspension from extracurricular activities

Third Offense:

- Items will be confiscated and not returned
- Administrator conference with parent/legal guardian
- Out-of-School Suspension with recommendation for expulsion
- Suspension from extracurricular activities

Driving and Parking on Campus

Our campus is under the jurisdiction of the Town of Lexington Police Department. Any student found in the parking lot during regular school hours (8:40 AM to 3:50 PM) without a pass from an administrator, will be in violation of parking lot policies.

1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
2nd Offense: & Beyond Detention/Suspension

Students are not allowed in vehicles during school hours without permission from the administration. Students who drive or ride to school in a car must exit the vehicle and parking lot immediately upon arrival at school.

1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
2nd Offense: & Beyond Detention/Suspension each offense beyond the 1st

A student must not speed or drive in a manner that is unsafe on campus.

1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
2nd Offense: Loss of driving privileges for two weeks
3rd Offense: Loss of driving privileges for the remainder of the year

Any vehicle parked in a manner that impedes the route of the school buses.

1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
2nd Offense: Loss of driving privileges for two weeks
3rd Offense: Loss of driving privileges for the remainder of the year

All cars must display a current RBHS parking permit.

1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
2nd Offense: Detention/Suspension
3rd Offense: Suspension

Student Identification Badges (IDs)

The district purchases one ID for each student at the beginning of each year. ID's must be displayed in the middle of the chest and with the picture facing forward. *ID's must not be altered or defaced in any way (Nothing on either side of the ID).*

If a student misplaces his/her ID or leaves it at home, that student must get a temporary ID from the kiosk on Main Street before they attend their first class of the school day. **There will be no consequence if a student is issued a temporary ID before school begins each day at 8:40 A.M.**

Once the school day begins, students will receive three temporary IDs without consequence. After the fourth ID violation, students will begin receiving consequences.

If a student reports to their first class of the day without his/her ID displayed or if the ID is in the student's book bag or pocket, a staff member will send the student to get a temporary ID, and the student will receive an ID offense. **Refusal to get a temporary ID as directed will result in suspension.**

There is no charge for a temporary ID before school; however, if the student's ID is lost or defaced, there is a $5 charge for a replacement ID.

Students who are new to RBHS and have not received their permanent ID must report to the library to get a temporary ID until their official school ID is printed. These students will not be penalized.

A student who needs a temporary ID after the start of the school day, who alters his/her ID in any way, who wears another student's ID, who fails to wear his/her ID, or fails to wear the ID near the middle of the chest will be assigned the following:

1st – 3rd Offense per semester: Warning
4th – 8th Offense per semester: Lunch Detention
9th – 10th Offense per semester: After School Detention
Detention/Suspension for all instances beyond the tenth offense

- **Note: ID violations reset at the start of each semester**

If a student loses, defaces, or destroys his/her ID, that student must purchase a new ID for $5.00. If a student uses another student's ID for any reason the infraction will result in:

1st Offense: Detention/suspension/conference with parent

Miscellaneous

1) Students are not permitted to loiter in the restrooms at any time.
   1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
   2nd Offense and beyond: Detention/Suspension

2) Students are expected to clear the building by 4:00 PM daily unless they are under the supervision of a school employee. Students should establish prearranged times for transportation so that they will not need to use the phone or linger in the hallways, commons area, office, cafeteria, or other school areas.
   1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
   2nd Offense and beyond: Detention/Suspension

3) Any inappropriate display of affection will not be permitted (kissing, prolonged hugging, etc.)
   1st Offense: Conference with student and detention
   2nd Offense and beyond: Detention/Suspension

4) No drinks, food, or gum are to be brought into areas where safety is an issue (gym, science labs, fine arts, computer labs, etc.)
   1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
   2nd Offense: Detention/Suspension
   3rd Offense: Suspension

5) Leave No Trace. Students are expected to clean up any areas where food or drinks were consumed.
   1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
   2nd Offense: Detention/Suspension
   3rd Offense: Suspension

6) Misuse of hall passes is being in the halls without a pass signed by a teacher or administrator, by being in an area or on the way to an area not specified on the hall pass.
   1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
   2nd Offense: Detention/Suspension
   3rd Offense: Suspension

7) Leaving class without permission.
   1st Offense: Detention/Suspension
   2nd Offense: Suspension
   3rd Offense: Suspension

8) Students found in an unauthorized area (includes locations not available for ILT mods. See ILT Norms for specific locations)

1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
2nd Offense: Detention/Suspension
3rd Offense: Suspension

9) Use of Profanity
1st Offense: Detention/Suspension
2nd Offense and beyond: Suspension

10) Horseplay or Mischievous Behaviors
1st Offense: 1 After School Detention
2nd Offense and beyond: Detention/Suspension

Fighting

Fighting is defined as being involved in any situation that includes the willful, angry, and violent touching of another's person or clothing or anything attached to his person or held by him. All participants will be suspended unless it is clear that a participant did everything possible to avoid the fight. A police report will be filed, and individual charges could be filed.

- 3 days Out-of-School Suspension and school-based probation
- Any student that refuses to stop fighting when directed to by a school employee will be recommended for expulsion.
- Any student involved in two fights during a school year will be recommended for expulsion

Examples of Student Conduct Which Will Result in Out-of-School Suspension

- Refusal to give a cellular device or any other electronic device to a staff member
- Refusal to report immediately to the office when sent
- Leaving the office without permission
- Students lying to an administrator
- Failure to identify self
- Refusal to report to or leave a specific area
- Tobacco violations
- Larceny
- Forgery
- Fraudulent medical notes
- Allowing unauthorized persons onto campus without following proper sign-in procedures for visitors
- Use of discriminatory and/or derogatory language against any race, nationality, gender, or religious groups.

****Administration reserves the right to place a student on school-level probation on a case-by-case basis.***

Examples of Student Conduct Which May Result in Recommendation for Expulsion

- Assault
- Disruption of school
- Extortion, blackmail, or coercion
- Becoming a member of a group when the student knows or should know that the group is engaged in or is preparing to engage in an activity prohibited by the rules of the school (ex. Vandalism)
- Running from any member of the RBHS staff
- Suspensions totaling five days within a semester
- Damaging or destroying school property, or stealing school property or private property on school grounds
- Unauthorized presence on school grounds
- Students on campus while under suspension
- Unauthorized distribution of non-school sponsored materials
- Failure to obey a direct order from an administrator
- Using obscene or vulgar language or gestures
- Showing gross disrespect to a staff member
- Sexual offenses
- Ankling (Pulling the pants/shorts of another student down.)

For more information on the above see the Lexington School District One Student/Parent Handbook.

Examples of Student Conduct Which Will Result in Recommendation for Expulsion

- Repeated school violations
- Suspensions totaling 10 days during the academic year.
- Possessing, handling, or transmitting a knife, gun/firearm, or other object that can be considered a weapon (including a look-alike weapon)
- Possessing, handling, or using fireworks
- Possessing, using, transferring, associating with, selling, or being under the influence of alcohol, controlled drugs, drug paraphernalia, look-alike drugs, narcotics, stimulant drugs, etc.
- Evidence of membership in secret societies or gang activity
- Threatening a school employee or a member of their family

For more information on the above see the Lexington School District One Student/Parent Handbook.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

Lexington County School District One encourages students to maintain high standards of academic integrity and honesty. In an effort to clarify expectations, the following list provides examples of unacceptable acts of cheating:

- Looking at someone else's quiz, test, or exam;
- Revealing items to someone who has not taken a quiz, test, or exam;
- Copying from others on assignments designated as independent work.
- Referring to unauthorized notes and materials during a quiz, test, or exam;
- Positioning your paper or technological device into viewing range of another student during a quiz, test, or exam;
- Using unauthorized technological devices to complete or disseminate answers during quiz, test, or exam. Using technological devices to secure work from another student's project;
- Obtaining an unauthorized copy of a quiz, test, or exam;
- Plagiarizing a paper or using a paper written by another person (citation errors are handled during the writing process by classroom teachers) and plagiarizing work from another student's project; and
- Attempting to take an online assignment or assessment for another student or allowing another person to complete an online assignment or assessment for you.
- The use of artificial intelligence (A.I.) by students to produce work presented as student original thought

Teachers and administrators treat cheating as a serious matter. Teachers will confer with the appropriate administrator to review the evidence of any misconduct.

Parents will be notified and a mandatory conference will be held with the student, parent or guardian, teacher, and administrator. Any behavioral consequence such as in-school suspension (ISS) will be explained at that time.

After the conference is held, the student will be required to complete an appropriate assignment/assessment. This work will be graded in lieu of the original assignment/assessment.

If the student does not complete the assignment/assessment by the due date, a zero will automatically be entered into the grade book. If the offense occurs during a reassessment opportunity, the reassessment score will be dropped, and the original grade will be recorded.

The behavioral infraction of cheating will be documented through a discipline referral and noted in the student's discipline record. Behavioral consequences up to out-of-school suspension (OSS) for incidences of cheating will be administered at the discretion of the school-based administrator.

1st Offense:	In-School Suspension
2nd Offense & Beyond:	Out of School Suspension

LOCKERS

Lockers are the property of Lexington County School District One. All lockers will be emptied on the day following the last day of school. The school will not be responsible for items left in lockers. Lockers are subject to search at any time by the administration.

DELIVERIES TO STUDENTS

Florist and balloon deliveries **will not** be accepted for students. Food deliveries from parents and restaurants or commercial delivery services (i.e. UberEats, DoorDash, Postmates) **will not** be accepted.

VALUABLES

Money, purses or other valuables are not to be left at school, on the cafeteria tables, hallways, or in the lockers rooms during P.E., extracurricular practices or games. The school will not be responsible for money or other valuables left unattended during or after school hours.

LEARNING COMMONS

The RBHS Learning Commons is a place for reading, research, studying, and collaborating. Hours are 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday through Friday. Books may be checked out for a two-week period. Overdue fines are 10 cents per day. Damage fees will be charged. Lost books will be charged at the replacement value, with a minimum charge of $5.

MEDICATION POLICY

1. The Parent/Guardian of the student must request in writing that the student be given medication. Medication Forms can be found on the district website.
2. All medication should be brought to the school by the parent/guardian, (except for high school students), if a situation arises that the parent cannot bring the medication, the student should bring the medication to the health room first thing in the morning. All medications should be brought in the original container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy and/or health care provider.
3. Students are only allowed to self carry life saving medications prescribed by a physician with orders and self carry consents in the nurse's office. The school supplies no medication. This includes Tylenol, Motrin, Aspirin, etc. All medications will be stored in a locked cabinet in the health room. A medication form signed by a parent is required for the nurse to administer any over the counter medication they provide. A physician must sign the medication form for any prescription medications to be dispensed. The prescription bottle and physician order must match. No more than a 1 month supply of control medication will be stored in the health room.

- See District Drug Policy for consequences.

ATTENDANCE

South Carolina law mandates that children 5 years old to 17 years old must attend school. The school year consists of 180 school days.

The district considers students present only when they are actually at school, on homebound instruction, or present at an activity authorized by the school such as field studies, athletic contests, music festivals, student conventions and similar activities.

Absences and Excuses

If absent, a student must present a written excuse signed by a parent, guardian, physician or other appropriate person within **three** days after returning to school. The excuse must include the date the excuse is written, date(s) of student's absence, reason for student's absence, telephone number where the parent/guardian may be reached and the required signature. **Fraudulent excuses (those that have been tampered and/or forged) will count as unlawful absences and the student will be assigned an out of school suspension up to 3 days.**

Parent/Legal guardian excuses (Parent Notes) for absences may be accepted for students to make up missed assignments; however, to assure course credit for students who have accumulated more than the allowable absences specified for the course duration, a doctor's excuse will be required for all absences beyond the allowable absences. The principal will require a student who has accumulated more than 5 absences in a semester course or 10 absences in a yearlong course to provide a doctor's excuse for all further absences in order to receive course credit. Principals have the authority to review absences in excess of five days in a semester course and to use their own discretion for follow up.

Students in grades 9-12 are allowed the following number of absences before losing course credit:

- 90-day classes 5 lawful/unlawful absences
- 180-day classes 10 lawful/unlawful absences

Excused Absences

These absences do not count against the days students are allowed to miss by state law:

- All students whose attendance in school endangers their health or the health of others, as determined by a physician or school nurse.
- Students classified as Juniors and Seniors receive two college visits during the year. A letter from a college/university representative on official college/university letterhead must be submitted to the Attendance Office within three days of the absence.
- Students who are chronically ill. A doctor's statement explaining that the student does not need to see a doctor every time the illness occurs must be turned into the attendance office. Once the statement is on file with the school, the parent/guardian can inform the doctor of the occurrence of the illness and the doctor can fax the Attendance Office the excuse or the original may be picked up from the doctor and given to the Attendance Office when the student returns to school. Schools do not accept faxes from parents.

- Students who must keep medical or dental appointments. The student must see the doctor for the absence to be excused, except in cases where the student has been determined to be chronically ill as explained above.
- Students who have an immediate family member who is seriously ill. A parent note showing that the family member is seriously ill must be turned into the attendance office.
- Students attending a funeral of an immediate family member. A parent note must be turned into the attendance office.
- Students participating in a recognized religious holiday of their faith.
- Students who have prior permission to participate in school-sponsored or school-approved activities.
- Students who have unusual or mitigating circumstances as determined by the school principal.

Lawful Absences

The following absences count against the days students are allowed to miss by state law but allow students to make up missed assignments:

- A written note from a parent/guardian.
- Illness of the student to the degree that his/her attendance in school would endanger his/her health or the health of others as documented in writing by parent/legal guardian within three school days after the student has returned to school; provided the number of classes or days missed does not exceed the allowable absences specified for the course duration.

Unlawful Absences

The following absences count against the days students are allowed to miss by state law and the district gives unexcused absences for:

- Students willfully absent from school/truant.
- Students absent without the knowledge of their parents/guardians/cutting school.
- Students suspended from school.

After three consecutive unexcused absences or after a total of five unexcused absences, the principal or designee will identify the reason(s) for the student's continued absence and will, with the student and parent/guardian, develop a Truancy Intervention Plan to improve that student's attendance.

If a student accumulates more than five unexcused absences in one semester, the student may be referred to a truancy prevention program or to court. Before a principal takes legal enforcement action, the principal will notify the parent/guardian and allow that parent/guardian to present information for appeal.

Truancy

In accordance with state law, all children between the ages of 5 and 17 are required to attend public or private school. Parents or guardians who do not wish to enroll their five-year-old child in kindergarten can sign a waiver. A child 5 to 17 years meets the definition of a truant when the child has three consecutive unlawful absences or a total of five unlawful absences.

SEARS (School Extension for At-Risk Students) Program

River Bluff provides attendance intervention through the SEARS program. Students who receive a final grade of "FA" due only to unexcused absences beyond the limit allowed for the course will be allowed to participate. Students are only allowed to recover up to 3 absences in a semester course and 6 absences in a yearlong course. Students with excessive absences in the first semester must attend SEARS at the end of the first semester. Students with excessive absences second semester must attend SEARS at the end of the second semester. The cost of the program is $25 per session.

Procedure for Turning In Excuses for Absences

Excuses will be accepted in the Attendance Office before school, during ILT, or after school. Students will not be allowed to miss instruction to turn in excuses.

Procedures for Signing Students In and Out of School

No student will be permitted to leave school during the school day unless a parent/guardian or other approved person on the student's emergency contact list comes to the school for the student or unless prior arrangements have been made. Parents/guardians must identify, in writing on the School Health Form distributed at registration, the individuals who have permission to sign their child out of school. The parent/guardian or other approved person must come to the office and sign the student out during school hours (the school is open at 7:30 AM). Picture identification is required. Schools do not accept incoming telephone calls, written notes, or faxes for the purpose of dismissing a pupil from school early. Anyone not on the student's approved sign out list will not be allowed to sign any student out of school. Students who leave school without being properly signed out will be treated as cutting class. Students are not allowed to be signed out of school between 3:00 PM and 3:50 PM. **Students must sign back in upon their return to campus during the regular school day.**

Students must attend 50% of the class to be counted present.

Ill or injured students must be signed out by an adult (parent/guardian or adult listed as emergency contact) in order to leave campus. Parent/guardian will sign the student out through the nurse's office. In case of an emergency or extenuating circumstances, the principal will use his or her judgment in excusing a student.

Doctor/Dentist Appointment

The parent/guardian must sign students out. Students will not be allowed to sign themselves out of school, regardless of age or grade, to go to appointments. Parents may sign out students in the main office up to one week in advance of the appointment.

Tardies

The office assigns a tardy if the student is late to school or any class; tardy students report to the Attendance Office located on Main Street to receive a Gator Pass.

Note: Being tardy to school with a parent note will count towards a detention if the student has exceeded their allotted amount of excuses. A tardy note serves only to notify the school that the parent is aware of the tardy, but it does not excuse the student from detention.

Failing to Sign In Upon Arrival at School

1st Offense: Conference/Warning
2nd Offense: 1 After School Detention
3rd Offense: Detention/suspension
4th Offense & Beyond: Suspension

Tardy to Class and School

1st – 2nd Offense per nine weeks: Warning
3rd – 8th Offense per nine weeks: Lunch Detention
9th – 10th Offense per nine weeks: After School Detention
11th-12th Offense per nine weeks: Saturday School Detention
In-School Suspension for all instances beyond the twelfth offense

- Note: Tardies are reset each nine weeks.

Cutting Class

Failing to attend an assigned class, including mandatory Call Back and Structured Learning Time (SLT):

1st Offense: Detention/Suspension
2nd Offense & Beyond: Suspension

Fraudulent Medical Notes

Knowingly submitting fraudulent medical documentation to the attendance office

1st Offense: Suspension (up to 3 days OSS)
2nd Offense & Beyond: Recommendation for Expulsion

LEAVING CAMPUS WITHOUT PERMISSION

River Bluff High School is a closed campus. Students may not leave campus without following sign out procedures during the school day, including during Independent Learning Time (ILT) or Structured Learning Time (SLT).

1st Offense:	Detention/Suspension with a warning about parking privileges
2nd Offense:	Suspension and loss of parking privileges for one month for student drivers
3rd Offense:	Suspension and loss of parking privileges for the semester for student drivers

ADDITIONAL ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Schools will continue to accept parent notes and excuses to document absence reasons. Schools can accept these excuses electronically (i.e. ParentSquare or email). **Parent notes do not count towards truancy.**

All respiratory illnesses (including, but not limited to: COVID-19, Influenza, RSV) require a student to be excluded from school and school activities until they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. These absences are considered excused only if a medical note is provided.

Truancy regulations remain in effect. Please refer to the SC Department of Education truancy pamphlet for more information.

MAKEUP WORK

In cases of excused absences, makeup work must be completed during the first five (5) school days after the student returns to school. The student must make arrangements for makeup work.

Teachers will assist students with makeup work as needed, either before school, during independent learning time or after school.

Students that are absent may refer to their teacher's Schoology page for their assignments or request their assignments.

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

Final exams may not be given in advance of the final exam date and time unless the early exam is a part of the approved curriculum and is communicated in advance to the students and parents. The date and time of the Final Exam will be posted on Schoology near the end of the course.

A student may make up a Final Exam under the following circumstances:

- The absence is excused (illness with a doctor's note, death in the family, extenuating circumstances submitted in writing to and approved by the Principal or his designee).
- The make-up exam is taken on the make-up exam date or a later date as agreed upon by the administration, teacher and student.

Examples of absences that will not be considered excused include a conflict with a student's work schedule, vacation, and college visits.

PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

Students in Grades 9-12 will be awarded units of credit for courses that have been approved by the South Carolina Department of Education. Requirements for promotion to each grade level are as follows:

- promotion from Grade 9 to Grade 10: a total of five units of credit, including one unit of English and one unit of mathematics
- promotion from Grade 10 to Grade 11: a total of 12 units of credit, including two units of English and two units of mathematics
- promotion from Grade 11 to Grade 12: a total of 18 units of credit, including three units of English and three units of mathematics
- high school graduation: a total of 24 total units of credit, including four units of English; four units of mathematics; three units of science, including one in which an end-of-course test is administered; one unit of U.S. History; 1/2 unit of Economics; 1/2 unit of Government; one additional unit of social studies; one unit of physical education, junior ROTC, or marching band with physical education; one unit of computer science; one unit of foreign language or career and technology education; and seven electives, including 1/2 unit of health.

*Beginning with the 2023-2024 9th grade class, the completion of 1/2 unit of credit in personal finance is required to earn a high school diploma.

When a student is not progressing in a core subject, he/she will be provided with appropriate interventions to help the student perform on grade level in the identified subject.

SCHEDULE

Daily Schedule

School Start time will be 8:40 AM
End Time will be 3:50 PM
Five minute travel time embedded at the end of each class

River Bluff High School 2025-2026 School Year Schedule Template

B Phase (60 mins, 60 mins, 90 mins)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
A	1 8:40-9:35		2 9:40-10:35		3 10:40-11:35		C1 - A Day 11:40-12:10			C2 - A Day 12:20-12:50		5 12:55-1:50		6 1:55-2:50		7 2:55-3:50	
B	4 8:40-9:35			3 9:40-11:05			C1 - B Day 11:10-12:10			C2 - B Day 12:20-12:50			8 12:55-2:20			6 2:25-3:50	
C	2 8:40-9:35			1 9:40-11:05			C1 - C Day 11:10-12:10			C2 - C Day 12:20-1:20				7 1:25-2:50		8 2:55-3:50	
D		4 8:40-10:05			2 10:10-11:35		C1 - D Day 11:40-12:10			C2 - D Day 12:20-1:20				5 1:25-2:50		6 2:55-3:50	
E	3 8:40-9:35		4 9:40-10:35		1 10:40-11:35		C1 - E Day 11:40-12:10			C2 - E Day 12:20-12:50		7 12:55-1:50		8 1:55-2:50		5 2:55-3:50	

FACTS ABOUT RIVER BLUFF HIGH SCHOOL

Architect	Jumper Carter Sease/CJMW Architecture
Construction Management Firm	Cumming Construction Management
Site Contractor	Sox and Sons Construction
Building Contractor	China Construction America of South Carolina, Inc.
Address and Location	320 Corley Mill Road Lexington, SC 29072 (RBHS is located on Corley Mill Road. Take Corley Mill Road from Highway 378 near I-20 Exit 61.)
Acreage	146.16 Acres
Initial Student Capacity	2,000 Students
Core Facilities Capacity	2,500 Students
Square Footage	523,841 Square Feet
Date Site Work Began	June 2010
Expected Opening	August 2013
Funding	2008 Bond Referendum
Principal	Mr. Jacob N. Smith III
Principal Contact	803.821.0701 or jsmith@lexington1.net