

DRESS CODE and EXPECTATIONS

CLOTHING:

As we start school in summer heat, our students will want to wear cooler clothing. Current “fashion” trends include short-short SHORTS, and “racer back” tank tops that have full bra straps showing. Please remind your daughters that these tops are not acceptable because they show bra straps. Also, we’ve tried to encourage parents to use our guideline of having **shorts with an inseam of 4 inches**. This assures modesty, especially when the girls are seated or active on the play equipment or fields. Our older boys are increasingly aware of our older girls, and we want to help support you as you prepare your daughters for the adolescent world of middle & high school grades which is just around the corner for some of our students.

For our high school young ladies, dressing carefully with a respect for our dress code will help you tremendously as you prepare for the expectations in the workplace or other social environments. Gentlemen, please observe modesty by having shorts worn at the waist. Avoid tank style shirts with overly large arm holes. Mesh fabric is not appropriate attire for school. Please go through your summer weather wardrobes and identify those items that are appropriate to wear to school, and those that are reserved for weekends or non-school days/hours.

SHOES:

No FLIP FLOPS. All **K-8** students must have **covered toes and a heel strap**. This is a safety issue. Our equipment boxes have fibrous filler for a safety cushion, but feet must be protected. **High school** students will not be allowed to participate in any field activities if appropriate shoes are not worn. We hope that our older students will model safe and appropriate dress for our younger students.

Thank you for your help and support.

~Mrs. Tennebaum and Staff

The Use of Personal Mobile Communication Devices and Other Electronic Devices During Class Hours

Reference: Ramona Unified School District policy on Personal Communication Devices, as recently updated and adopted:

Students' Personal Mobile Communication Devices

Ramona Unified School District believes the use of mobile communication devices can enhance the students' educational experience and thereby permits students to bring them to school. These mobile communication devices are not limited to laptop computers, but include students' *personal* mobile communication devices, such as iPads, smart phones, cell phones, Nook, Kindle, and other up and coming technologies.

Just as the students' personal mobile communication devices could enhance learning, these devices could disrupt the teaching and learning process. If a student's personal mobile communication device is determined to be a disruption, parents and students understand that either the student will be asked to put the device away or that it will be confiscated and held in the office until the end of the school day. If confiscated, parents can pick up the personal mobile communication device from the office.

Parents and students also understand the student assumes full responsibility for their personal mobile communication device. **The school is not responsible if a student's personal mobile communication devices is lost, stolen, or damaged. Students bring these devices to school and use them at their own risk.**

Background:

Today's students have cell/smart phones and a wealth of other portable electronic devices at their disposal. Such devices have the capacity to significantly enhance instruction and hence support the teaching and learning process in a positive educational environment. Using an electronic device to scan the web in search of answers or examples to use in a classroom project, or to help solve teacher sponsored problems are admirable and appropriate uses of such technology. Conversely, these same devices can seriously detract from or circumvent the learning process. Watching streaming video or playing games that are unrelated to instruction can seriously impede a student's understanding of the concepts being taught, and compromise the use of educational time. This is especially critical in an independent study program, where direct instruction time is limited.

Discussion:

Monitoring students' moment to moment use of communication and other devices is both time consuming and an unnecessary imposition on the teacher's instructional time. Compromising the integrity of tests or assignments in any of the following ways will result in an automatic grade of "F" (also referenced in our Academy Honesty Code):

1. Sharing answers via IMs, email, text messaging, or via any other electronic communication
2. Using text messaging to tell somebody else an answer
3. Programming notes into one's calculator or calculator application
4. Taking and/or sending an electronic photo of the test material or notes
5. Video/Audio recording of lectures with electronic devices and replaying during tests
6. Surfing the web for answers during a test
7. Viewing notes on any electronic device during a test
8. Storing definitions or any other text display during a test

Action:

As guided by RUSD policy and in an effort to limit disruptions to the learning environment, Ramona Community School/Mountain Valley Academy students are not permitted to operate a cell/smart phone or any other electronic device not specifically assigned for use by the teacher during instructional time.

RUSD policy gives teachers the option to either direct that the device be put away, or to confiscate the device for parent pick-up. We have high expectations for our MVA students to maintain personal responsibility, and therefore we have determined as a school team that **if a student is caught using a personal electronic device without specific authorization from the teacher, that device will be confiscated and taken to the school office and released only to the parent.** Our students have been informed, and therefore there is no need for a "warning" prior to confiscation of the device.