

RIVERMONT COLLEGIATE



Student – Parent Handbook
2011-12

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INTRODUCTION


Welcome

Welcome to Rivermont Collegiate! You are part of an educational community that has influenced the lives of students in the Quad Cities since 1884. Although the School has evolved and adapted over those years, it remains committed to a strong college preparatory curriculum and the development of character and creativity. As a member of the Rivermont Community, you will be expected to take an active part in all aspects of school life – curricular and co-curricular. You will find many opportunities for involvement! Students, faculty, and parents are encouraged to “bring of themselves” and shape and color the Rivermont Community.

This handbook is designed to provide an overview of policies, procedures, and perspectives. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the contents. It will answer many questions you may have about academics, security, discipline, school rules, safety, athletics, and a variety of other topics. Please understand that no set of rules or guidelines can cover every conceivable situation that might arise at Rivermont. The rules, policies, and procedures set forth in this handbook are intended to apply under normal circumstances. However, from time to time, there are situations that require immediate or nonstandard responses. This handbook does not limit the authority of Rivermont Collegiate to deviate from normal rules and procedures set forth in this handbook, and to deal with individual circumstances in the manner deemed most appropriate by the School, taking into consideration the best interests of Rivermont, its faculty, employees, students, and overall school community. The policies may be revised or updated periodically, even during the school year. You will be advised of any changes as they are made either electronically (e-mail) or by mail.

School life is governed by common sense and adherence to Rivermont’s core principles: Intellect, Character, and Creativity. We strive to provide students with opportunities to learn - both in and out of the classroom - and a sense of trust and mutual respect is expected. Students are expected to live by the letter and spirit of this handbook. Many opportunities present themselves for students to demonstrate leadership and character both formally, as elected officers of clubs and coordinators of activities, and informally, as committed members of the Rivermont Community who create and maintain a nurturing, caring, and safe school climate. As a PreSchool through Grade Twelve institution, Rivermont is a unique school community that spans a broad range of ages, needs, and interests. Students learn from each other and demonstrate leadership at all levels.

Each member of this community plays a vital role in meeting Rivermont’s mission. I encourage you to engage yourself completely, participate actively, and be proud to be a Rivermont Lion!



Headmaster

Mission Statement

Rivermont Collegiate is dedicated to academic excellence and maximizing the potential of each student through a nurturing, stimulating, and structured environment that advances the individual's Intellect, Character, and Creativity while guiding the student on a path of life-long learning, prepared to engage fully in his or her local, national, and global communities.

Adopted Spring 2007

Philosophy

Rivermont Collegiate, established in 1884, is a nondenominational, nonprofit, college preparatory day school for PreSchool through Grade Twelve. Passionate and engaged faculty and administration provide students with a balance of knowledge and skills in critical thinking, while helping them attain a healthy self-esteem. This balance allows students to develop a genuine sense of self and become successful students in college and graduate school, responsible adults in the community, and wise and compassionate citizens of the world.

Ethical values are an essential dimension of a well-educated young person. Rivermont teaches respect for others and instills a spirit of community service and civic responsibility in its students. Students learn to value differences among individuals and appreciate the unique contributions each person adds to the Rivermont Community. The School is committed to reflecting the social, cultural, and economic diversity of the Quad Cities and surrounding communities.

Rivermont believes that:

- High expectations and standards set the tone for excellence and call students to do their best.
- Students thrive in an environment where the student to teacher ratio assures personal attention.
- The School works in partnership with parents to develop the potential in each student.
- Each student has special talents and aptitudes to be nurtured and developed.
- Participation in school activities and programs should be open to all students to explore and develop talents and interests.
- Students progress through developmental stages that afford the School opportunities to develop skills, deepen knowledge, and nurture creativity.
- Students develop authentic self-esteem and confidence through diligence, accountability, and personal responsibility for learning, behavior, and attitudes.

- Education is never complete. It is a life-long process that encompasses the mind, heart, and spirit in tangible experiences in scholarship, service, and performance, both artistic and athletic.
- Students grow and learn from experiences with significant adults who model compassion, scholarship, conviction, and integrity.
- Diversity of thought and culture within the Rivermont Community encourages real exchange of perspectives, mutual respect, and understanding.
- The future of a democratic society depends upon the intellect, participation, and character of its children.

Commitment

Rivermont students and graduates should:

- Be literate in the humanities, mathematics, science, technology, the arts, and languages.
- Demonstrate useful physical skills, cooperative and competitive team skills, sportsmanship, and a life-long interest in fitness and health.
- Demonstrate creative, critical, and generative thinking.
- Embody integrity, compassion, tolerance, responsibility, discernment, and optimism.

Honor Code

Lower School

As a student in Lower School at Rivermont Collegiate, I pledge to be responsible for my words and seek to solve my problems peacefully.

I will respect myself and all others. I will not hurt others with my words or actions.

I will behave with honesty and expect others to be honest with me.

I will create a safe place for our community of learners.

I will take responsibility for my learning by submitting my best work neatly, completely, and on time.

I will listen attentively to teachers and students in class, knowing that any behavior that interrupts my learning or the learning of others cannot be tolerated.

Middle & Upper Schools

I pledge that I will behave in a manner that is honorable and reflects well on **Rivermont Collegiate** and me.

I pledge that all of the work I submit is my own.

I pledge that all of the ideas expressed in my work that are not cited are of my own thinking.

I pledge that the material that I cite will be presented in a manner that is consistent with current academic standards as outlined in the Student - Parent Handbook.

I pledge that I will not receive any assistance from nor collaborate with anyone else, unless permitted to do so from my instructor.

I understand that improperly giving or receiving assistance or information violates this **Honor Code**, and this may subject me to disciplinary action and/or loss of academic credit.

Further, I understand that it is my responsibility to know and abide by this **Honor Code** and that ignorance of the **Honor Code** does not excuse my failure to abide by its principles.

History of the School



1884 St. Katharine's School was founded.

“St. Katharine’s Hall was opened September 24, 1884—a school founded for the education of Christian women. . . . It had long been the plan of Bishop William Stevens Perry (Episcopal Bishop of Iowa) to open a school for girls in his diocese of Iowa. When a sum of money was left to Griswold College in the will of Miss Sarah Burr of New York, the bishop was enabled to carry out the plan. The Trustees of Griswold College signed the papers by which Cambria Place, a large residence in eastern Davenport (10th and Tremont Street) became the property of the college, and thus was established for all time the girls’ school St. Katharine’s Hall. The Iowa Churchman of that time describes the newly acquired building as follows: ‘Cambria Place is, perhaps, the most palatial of our Iowa homes. Built by the late Hon. John L. Davies. . . with every care for beauty, solidity and perfectness of finish; designed by the celebrated Cochrane, of Chicago, the architect of the Illinois State Capitol and the building of the Chicago Board of Trade; situated on a noble bluff overlooking the

three cities, and having a view of nearly a score of miles up and down the Mississippi with every possible convenience requisite for making this a house beautiful...this new school...will possess a building especially adapted for educational purposes.”

First Headmistress: Emma Rice (Vassar graduate)
First Board Chairman: J. J. Richardson

- 1885 Annex built behind St. Katharine’s Hall.
- 1888 Richardson Observatory was constructed.
First Commencement was held (four years after founding).
- 1893 Enrollment: 50 boarders, 40 day students.
- 1900 Griswold College property was sold and the proceeds went to a fund to place St. Katharine’s on a sound financial basis.
- 1901 Fire destroyed the entire eastern part of Davenport and came right to the porch of St. Katharine’s Hall and stopped. Observatory was destroyed.
- 1902 The Episcopal Sisters of St. Mary assume the direction of St. Katharine’s.
- 1903 Completion and dedication of new gymnasium and St. Mary’s Chapel.
- 1909 St. Margaret’s Hall was opened.
- “The school was beginning to be crowded. Although there were accommodations for fifty boarders and forty day students, the need was felt for more room—especially classrooms and studios. Adjoining the property was a handsome residence with several acres of land and a dignified entrance. This was the Renwick Place, vacant for a number of years, which gave the only means of expansion possible in the midst of the city. It is built of stone, the rooms are large and lofty and the woodwork exceptionally fine. There is a steep bank between the two houses and a connection was made by a covered way with continuous glass windows on either side, a delightful place especially in winter when the bright sunlight streams in. Both houses were built about the same time by old settlers and are solidly constructed, dignified, and handsome, with a very homelike atmosphere. The three storied stone house contained five porches, room for an infirmary with its own staircase, a studio, music room, and dormitory space for thirty more boarders.”
- 1915 Two white oak statues (hand carved by Kirchmier, one of the workers of Oberammergau) of St. Katharine and St. Margaret (presently in Milwaukee at St. Mary’s Convent) were given by the class of 1915 in memory of the death of Sister Mary Thecla.
- 1917 J. J. Richardson died and bequeathed \$15,000 to St. Katharine’s.

- 1918 Marion Crandell, Sorbonne educated, former teacher of French, is the first American woman to be killed at the front in World War I.
- 1920 Alumnae purchase the McClandless home, in her memory, for the teachers' home.
- 1923 Crandell Hall was built as a teachers' cottage in honor of Marion Crandell.
- 1925 A new tennis court was donated by the class of '25.
- 1926 May Fete began.
- 1934 The Sisters painted a series of beautiful oil paintings on the dining room walls illustrating a 14th century church calendar.
- 1935 Oneida Ravine was filled in by French and Hecht (donation) to widen the athletic field and allow a road through the campus from Oneida Street.
- 1943 The School was returned to lay administration. Sisters relinquished responsibility for St. Katharine's School to consolidate their work at Kemper Hall, Kenosha, Wisconsin.
- 1950 A new dormitory was constructed.
- 1968 The enrollment was 168. The boarding section was discontinued. The School became coeducational (boys were always admitted in the lower grades). "St. Mark" was added to the name for the boys' division. Religion classes and chapel services were no longer required.
- 1971 The first boys graduated from St. Katharine's St. Mark's School.
- 1973 The School moved to the Bettendorf Estate at 1821 Sunset Drive, Bettendorf. The five acres and two buildings—main mansion and carriage house—were purchased from the Marist Society for \$175,000 under a contract at 6% directly from the Fathers. The facility at 10th and Tremont Streets was sold and became a nursing home.
- 1974 Uniforms were discontinued and replaced by a dress code.
- 1975 A new gymnasium was constructed. Enrollment was 220.
- 1980 The School discontinued its affiliation with the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa in November. A new library and two classrooms were constructed in the ballroom. The art studios were renovated.
- 1981 A stage and boys' and girls' locker and shower rooms were added to the gymnasium. The Edwin Bettendorf home was purchased for high school classes.
- 1984 School celebrates Centennial with gala reunion.

- 1986 Program for 3 year olds added; AP courses added.
- 1996 Diploma with Honors made available to highly qualified graduating seniors.
- 2001 New Lower School building, Becherer Hall was opened for the start of fall classes. High school classes were moved to the Mansion.
- 2002 The name of the School was changed to RIVERMONT COLLEGIATE.

School Heads

1.	1884-1899	Miss Emma Rice	5 years
2.	1899-1902	Miss Mary Frances Buffington	3 years
3.	1902-1932	Sister Esther	30 years
4.	1932-1940	Sister Ethel Mary	8 years
5.	1940-1943	Sister Noel	3 years
6.	1943-1947	Miss Ophelia Smith Todd Carr	4 years
7.	1947-1949	Mrs. Doris Thompson	2 years
8.	1949-1955	Miss Katherine Zierleyn	6 years
9.	1955-1957	Mr. T. C. Hinckley	2 years
10.	1957-1961	Mr. Walter H. Lemley	4 years
11.	1961-1962	Mr. Glenn L. Hostetter	1 year
12.	1962-1963	Mr. H. Sturgis Hodgedon	1 year
13.	1963-1968	Dr. Donald G. Reuter	5 years
14.	1968-1971	Mrs. Mary (Polly) Nichols Arp	3 years
15.	1971-1975	Mr. Gerald R. Thompson	4 years
16.	1975-1982	Mr. John P. Deniston	7 years
17.	1982-1983	Mr. Rockwell Stowell (interim)	1 year
18.	1983-1998	Dr. Michael A. Novello	15 years
19.	1998-2005	Mr. David B. Stephens	7 years
20.	2005-present	Mr. Richard St. Laurent	

Bettendorf Mansion

One of Bettendorf’s most distinctive buildings – built to last 1,000 years

Joseph W. Bettendorf, head of the Bettendorf Company, built his English manor style home on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River in 1915. He hired noted architect Arthur H. Ebeling to design and build the home for his family and to entertain railroad magnates from the east. Hasselgren Studios of Chicago was hired as the overall decorator. The foyer and breakfast room ceilings were painted in their studios and shipped by rail to the mansion. Some rugs were specially ordered and took over two years to complete in the Orient. Construction of the exterior was done by plant employees with all bricks on the mansion measured to be exactly the same size with uniform grout lines. Italian and German craftsmen were brought to the mansion to carve the woodwork and inlays on-site.

The 28 room mansion is 150 feet in length and has three floors and a full basement, for a total of 21,000 square feet of finished space. In addition to the mansion, the original estate, which covered 24 acres, consisted of a large greenhouse, a carriage house, a bath house and pool, a large guesthouse, and numerous formal gardens. The building was ahead of its time in many ways: base electrical outlets, metal lathe when wood was standard, slate roof with copper gutters, steel I-beams throughout the house for extra support, heating and plumbing enclosed in the walls, and a central vacuum system. The mansion remained a residence of the Bettendorf family until it was sold to the Marist Society in 1959 and used as a seminary. In 1973, St. Katharine's-St. Mark's School purchased the mansion and carriage house and moved from Davenport. The school built a gymnasium in 1975 and Becherer Hall in 2001. In 1981, the School purchased the former guest residence and in 2002, the School was renamed Rivermont Collegiate. Today only the mansion, carriage house, and guest house remain on 8.57 acres of the original estate. In 1984, the Bettendorf mansion was recognized for its historical significance to the people of Iowa and was entered in the National Register of Historic Places.

ORGANIZATION

Accreditation and Memberships

Rivermont Collegiate is accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) and the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI). The Rivermont Early School is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The School's program in grades 7-12 holds a Special Accreditation for College Preparatory Schools by the State of Iowa.

The School also holds memberships in:

- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- National Middle School Association (NMSA)
- College Board
- Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)
- National Association for Gifted Children
- Iowa Talented and Gifted Association
- National Honor Society
- National Junior Honor Society
- National Association of School Councils
- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
- Iowa High School Music Association
- Iowa High School Athletic Association

Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union
Iowa Basketball Coaches Association
Iowa Cheerleading Coaches Association
Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce
Bettendorf Rotary
and numerous professional academic associations.

Governance

Board of Trustees

The School is governed by a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees who volunteer their time, treasure, and talent for the overall good and health of Rivermont. These dedicated individuals represent current families, alumni, alumni parents, and members of the civic and business community. Their principal goals are two-fold: first, to ensure the fiscal and institutional health of the School and its programs, and second, to hire and support the Head of School. The Board customarily concerns itself with the mission of the School and general policies, while the Head of School is responsible for personnel and the day-to-day operation of the School. Rivermont Collegiate operates as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) institution and is incorporated in the State of Iowa. The Nominating Committee of the Board of Trustees prepares a list of potential trustees for consideration by the full board. Participation in Rivermont committees and activities provides deeper understanding and appreciation of the School's mission and may set the stage for further involvement.

Student Councils (StuCo)

Rivermont has three student councils elected by the student body – Lower School (Grades K-5), Middle School (Grades 6-8), and Upper School (Grades 9-12). Each student council consists of a slate of officers and class representatives and each has their own faculty advisor.

Business Office

The Business Office is responsible for all financial matters related to the organization of the School.

Tuition and Fees

Every family is obligated to pay a student's full tuition and fees regardless of the reasons for a student's withdrawal. Any account thirty (30) or more days in arrears is charged a 1.5% per month or 18% per annum finance charge on all outstanding amounts. For a severely delinquent account, the student may lose the privilege of attending classes, taking exams/tests, receiving report cards, and/or participating in activities. If a lunch account becomes severely past due, student charging privileges may be suspended.

Tuition Assistance

Families who received Tuition Assistance in the past should fill out the “Intent to Re-enroll and Apply for Financial Assistance” form as soon as they receive it in the mail from the School in late winter. Families new to Tuition Assistance should contact the Business Office in February for instructions on how to begin the process. All forms are completed and submitted for review by the Tuition Assistance Committee. Forms and information are available on the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org). All information gathered in the process is confidential.

Tuition Insurance

Enrollment at Rivermont is a commitment for the full academic year. Withdrawal is permitted before June 10, with written notice and forfeiture of the enrollment deposit. Thereafter, obligation to pay full tuition and fees for the entire year is unconditional. No portion of any tuition or fees, paid or outstanding, will be refunded or cancelled for any reason. Therefore, Rivermont highly recommends the Tuition Protection Plan in the event of a student’s absence, withdrawal, or dismissal from the School for any reason.

The Tuition Protection Plan is mandatory for families who choose payment plan C or D, and for families who receive Tuition Assistance and choose payment plan B. Others have the option to decline this insurance plan by so signifying on their Financial Agreement, but this decision should be carefully weighed in light of the above mentioned obligation. Once declined, the Plan is not available again during that academic year. The cost to participate in the Tuition Protection Plan is 5% of the annual tuition charge, due with the first tuition payment. Families who receive Tuition Assistance will pay 5% of their net tuition figure.

In the event of a medical withdrawal (complete and involuntary severance from classes, as certified in writing by a medical practitioner not related to the student), the Plan will forgive 75% of the pro-rated tuition balance for the remaining portion of the school year which the student does not attend.

In the event of dismissal of the student by school administration for scholastic or disciplinary reasons, the Plan will forgive 75% of the pro-rated tuition balance for the remaining portion of the school year which the student does not attend.

In the event of a withdrawal for other reasons, such as family relocation, the Plan will forgive (at the School’s discretion) 60% of the pro-rated tuition balance for the remaining portion of the school year which the student does not attend.

Re-enrollment

Re-enrollment contracts are mailed home in early spring. Contracts are conditional on the student’s satisfactory completion of the current academic year. No write-in changes may be made on a re-enrollment contract.

Parent Involvement

Parents are the first and primary educators of their children. Rivermont seeks to work in partnership with parents as their children progress through formal schooling. Studies show that students experience greater academic success and personal satisfaction when their parents are active participants in their education. Reading to your child, showing an interest in schoolwork, fostering good work habits, and demonstrating a commitment to life-long learning shows your child that you are committed to and value education. Parents are encouraged to become involved in the life of the School through volunteerism and philanthropy.

Rivermont expects students, faculty, staff, and administrators to follow the rules and regulations of the School both in spirit and in word. The School also expects parents to recognize and respect them. Courtesy and civility are vital to a healthy school community. Parents have a contractual relationship with the School, but more importantly, set an example to students. Rivermont therefore places great emphasis on comportment of all members of the Rivermont Community, including parents and families.

Rivermont endorses the following principles of good practice as promoted by the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS):

- Parents recognize that effective partnerships are characterized by clearly defined responsibilities, a shared commitment to collaboration, open lines of communication, mutual respect, and a common vision of goals.
- In selecting an independent school, parents seek an optimal match for the needs of the student, their own expectations, and the philosophy and programs of the school.
- Parents are familiar with and support the school's policies and procedures.
- Parents provide a home environment that supports the development of positive learning attitudes and habits.
- Parents involve themselves in the life of the school.
- Parents seek and value the school's perspectives on the students.
- When concerns arise, parents seek information directly from the school, consulting with those best able to address the concerns.
- Parents share with the school any religious, cultural, medical, or personal information that the school may need to best serve the student.

Parents' Council

All parents/guardians of Rivermont students are members of the Parents' Council. Parents' Council, which meets on a regularly scheduled basis, plans

events, raises money, and generally supports Rivermont. Volunteer opportunities are always available.

Admission Ambassadors

Parents are important ambassadors for Rivermont in the Quad City community. Parents' interactions with friends, neighbors, and co-workers are unique opportunities to promote the School. Parents are encouraged to invite other families to visit the School, attend functions, and meet with the Admission Office. Parents can assist the Admission Office directly by agreeing to meet prospective families to share their experiences. Please contact Parents' Council and/or the Admission Office to see how you can help.

Interscholastic Athletics

Athletic contests are excellent opportunities for parents to interact with each other while supporting their children and their friends. Athletic schedules are distributed at the beginning of each season and games are listed in the calendar section of *HEADlines*, as well as on the calendar on the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org). Parents are also invited to support the athletic program at Rivermont by selling concessions, selling tickets, and sometimes even as coaching assistants. Please contact the Athletic Director (currently Ed Knupp – knupp@rvmt.org or Ryan Pillow – pillow@rvmt.org) to discuss opportunities to volunteer.

Rivermont students may participate in interscholastic athletics beginning in Grade 5. Rivermont is a member of the Quad City Conference for middle school sports and fields teams in girls' volleyball, boys' & girls' basketball, and boys' & girls' track. Middle school students may also participate in cheerleading, cross country, golf, and soccer.

Upper School students at Rivermont have the opportunity to participate in all interscholastic sports offered by the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union. Rivermont has fielded teams in basketball, cross country, golf, volleyball, and cheerleading. Rivermont students have competed in a number of programs through our cooperative agreement with Bettendorf High School.

All students who participate in interscholastic sports must have a current physical on file at Rivermont and be in good academic standing in accordance with guidelines set forth by Rivermont, the state athletic associations, and the Iowa Board of Education. For more information on good academic standing, please see "Discipline" in the Learning Environment section of this handbook.

THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Parent Communication

Newsletters

HEADlines, the Rivermont newsletter, contains current items of interest to the entire Rivermont Community. It is distributed electronically every Friday to all parents who have provided an e-mail address.

In Early School and Lower School, classroom teachers write a weekly letter to parents. This letter includes information about curriculum, upcoming events, and special notes. In Middle and Upper School, periodic letters, notices, and e-mails are used to keep families and students informed of upcoming events and issues.

Scheduled Conferences

Individual conference days are scheduled in the fall and spring. Parents/guardians are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to exchange information with their child's teachers. An appointment book is made available at the Becherer Hall front desk to schedule a conference with each teacher you wish to speak with. Conference days in the fall and spring are quite busy, so parents/guardians are asked to schedule a conference appointment by visiting the Becherer Hall front desk or contacting Tammi Burrell at (563) 359-1366 ext. 337.

Additional Conferences

Parents/guardians, teachers, and advisors are encouraged to communicate with each other frequently. If a parent wishes to have a conference with a teacher, he or she should contact the teacher to arrange an appointment.

Classroom Visits

If a parent/guardian wishes to visit a classroom, he or she may call the Division Director for an appointment. Drop-in visits are discouraged, as they tend to disrupt the normal learning process.

Phone Calls and E-mail

Faculty and staff each have voicemail and e-mail. Faculty and staff make every attempt to respond to voicemail and e-mail within 24 hours while school is in session. Faculty and staff phone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed in the directory of this handbook.

Birthdays

Unless the entire class is invited, please do not send birthday invitations to classrooms. This can create a sensitive situation. Also, be sensitive to picking up

only a small group of children for a party after school. If you have any questions, contact the teacher.

Confidential Student Information Policy

Before sharing information on a student to a requesting party, the School requires written permission from the parent or a written request from the agency or physician, including a signed release. The requesting body, whether a school, physician, psychologist, or psychologist group, must send the request for information and a signed release form by fax or mail. This form must include the parent/guardian's signature.

Advising/Counseling

Academic Advising

Homeroom teachers in Kindergarten through Grade 5 serve as student advisors. Each student in Grades 6 through 12 has an assigned faculty advisor. The advisor facilitates communication between the student, family, teachers, and administration by meeting with each advisee on a weekly basis to review the student's progress and performance. Middle and Upper School parents receive an update from the student's advisor at each mid-quarter point describing the student's progress.

Counseling

The advisor is someone a student can approach with problems that arise in the normal course of school life; however, students are encouraged to seek out any faculty or staff member with whom they feel comfortable. It is important that a student feel free to discuss private issues with his or her advisor. However, the advisor also has a responsibility to communicate to parents and/or school administrators knowledge of any situation in which there is a threat to the well-being of the advisee, another person, or the School.

Whether it is academic, social, or personal counseling that is needed, someone at Rivermont is willing and available to help. The School also consults with psychologists from the AEA and through agreement with Genesis Medical Center. Free counseling is available to Rivermont students and parents by calling (563) 386-4004 or 800-475-1641.

College Counseling

It is our goal to find the right college or university for each Rivermont graduate. The college counseling process begins in Grade 9. Standardized testing begins in Grade 10 with the PLAN test. During junior year, each student is asked to generate a preliminary list of colleges based on a set of criteria, including geographic location, size, school atmosphere, and academic majors. That list is reworked until the best choices emerge. This personalized attention continues

through senior year and results in 100% four-year college placement for Rivermont graduates.

Discipline

It is expected that at all times, both on campus and off, Rivermont students will conduct themselves with good taste and proper behavior. However, on occasions when students may use bad judgment, the School exercises what it considers to be prudent disciplinary action, consistent with the offense, in order neither to condone the misbehavior nor to impugn the integrity of the School. With this in mind, Rivermont follows an orderly set of guidelines. It should be noted that disciplinary action takes precedence over personal schedules of students or their families.

Out-of-School and Off-Campus Behavior

Students should be aware that certain activities, even outside of school hours or off school property, may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and expulsion. Students may be subject to discipline for misconduct which is, or may be, disruptive of the educational process, interferes with the work of the School, is contrary to the mission of the School, impinges on the rights of other students, employees, and/or members of the Rivermont Community, or has a direct or immediate effect on the discipline or general welfare of the School, even if such conduct takes place off campus, during non-school hours, or on school breaks. Such conduct will be evaluated at the sole discretion of the School and the School reserves the right to deviate from the regular disciplinary process. Some examples of outside conduct that may have disciplinary ramifications include any violation of law, underage purchase, use, or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance, use or misuse of computers or computer websites (personal, at home, or at school), which do (or could) impact the welfare of any member of the Rivermont Community or the reputation or functioning of the School.

Major School Rules and Expectations

Rivermont's school rules can be summed in three simple statements.

Respect the learning process.

Respect yourself and others.

Respect property.

The following general guidelines constitute the Major School Rules and, as such, provide the framework for other more specific regulations. Violations of these rules will be dealt with by the appropriate Division Director, Dean and/or the Headmaster and may be grounds for a student's dismissal from Rivermont, even for a *first offense*.

- In a community with differing interests, backgrounds, cultures, and personalities, it is imperative that each respects and appreciates these differences. Therefore, instances of harassment, bullying, verbal abuse, and hazing are totally unacceptable.
- It is expected that students will be honest in all aspects of school life. Lying, cheating, stealing, and plagiarism are unacceptable.
- Property belonging to other people and the School must be treated with respect. Theft and vandalism are considered serious offenses.
- The possession of a weapon of any kind is strictly prohibited.
- Students are under the supervision of Rivermont Collegiate during the school day and school-sponsored events. Students are expected to be in assigned places and may not leave campus without permission from the appropriate administrator. Leaving campus or missing scheduled or announced activities without permission are serious offenses.
- The purchase, sale, possession, or use of illegal drugs, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia, and/or the misuse of other drugs or substances is prohibited. Alcohol is considered a drug under this policy. Additionally, being under the influence of drugs or alcohol while on campus or during school-sponsored events, regardless of where the substance was consumed, is considered a major rule violation and may be cause for dismissal.
- Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible and becoming manner. The School reserves the right to take disciplinary action for conduct injurious or dangerous to the student, to others, or to the good name of the School even if this conduct occurs off campus. This code of conduct will be in effect so long as the student is enrolled at Rivermont, whether school is in session or not.
- Rivermont is a tobacco-free campus. Therefore, the use or possession of tobacco products in any form is prohibited.
- Students are not permitted to use electronic games, portable music devices (mp3, iPod, CD, or similar devices), pagers, or cell phones during the school day. Upper School students in Open Study may be afforded certain privileges in this area.
- Students are not allowed to chew gum on campus, whether school is in session or not.

- Students are expected to follow directives given by faculty and staff in a courteous and respectful manner.
- Rivermont is fortunate to have both historic and modern facilities. Students should value and respect campus buildings and their furnishings. Students are expected to maintain order and cleanliness in classrooms, school lockers, and public areas where they congregate. Students must respect not only the property of the School, but also the property of fellow students and teachers.

Lockers

Lockers are Rivermont property and the School may choose to conduct a random search of any area of the school premises, including lockers, as well as any item of a student's personal belongings or in a student's possession, at any time and without prior notice. This search may occur when a member of the faculty or administration has reason to believe that a disciplinary infraction or the existence of physical or other potential harm to the student or others will be discovered. Students should never give out their locker combination to other students, even those they consider "best friends."

Possible Disciplinary Responses

If a student misbehaves or fails to follow procedures, actions including those described below may be taken.

In Lower School, the matter will be discussed with the student. A student and his/her parent may also receive an anecdotal note describing the nature of the infraction. Further, the student may be denied recess time, be given special tasks to do, or be assigned detention. Conferences with parents, teachers, and students will be held to resolve frequent or serious problems.

In the Middle and Upper School:

- Verbal Warning - Incidents of minor misconduct may result in a reprimand by a teacher, a Division Director, a Dean of Students, and/or the Headmaster. These incidents include tardiness, repeated incomplete or missing assignments, and lack of respect toward others or property.
- Detention - More serious offenses, or repeated minor offenses, may warrant a detention be assigned. Detention will be served at 7:30 a.m. on designated mornings. The student will report to the Dean of Students for the detention.

All School:

- Letter of Warning - This is a formal expression of concern which requires a family conference with the Division Director or Dean of Students. It follows the breach of a major rule or the accumulation of several infractions. Suggested action strategies may also be offered.
- Disciplinary Probation - This is a formal expression by Rivermont that the student's actions have placed his or her continued attendance at the School in jeopardy. A conference with the student and parent will be held and a letter placed in the student's file outlining the terms of the probation. In some cases, referrals may be made to community and professional resources.
- Suspension - Suspension from school can result from a serious breach of conduct. The length of the suspension will range depending on the severity of the infraction. Work missed while suspended is expected to be completed and turned in within 24 hours of return to school. This holds whether it is an in-school or out-of-school suspension. Depending on the situation, conditions may be imposed before the student may return to school.
- Dismissal - A student may be dismissed from Rivermont for serious misconduct or for violating a school rule while on disciplinary probation. Further, administration reserves the right to demand the withdrawal of any student at any time for violating or attempting to violate school rules, unsatisfactory academic achievement, behavioral concerns, failure to meet probationary expectations, or parental/guardian failure to keep accounts current in the Business Office.

It should be noted that violations of school rules become part of a student's disciplinary record and may be communicated to appropriate third parties.

Discipline Committee

When deemed necessary, the Headmaster and/or Assistant Headmaster may assemble an ad hoc disciplinary committee, composed of three members of the faculty and (if appropriate) one student representative, to suggest appropriate disciplinary responses.

Good Standing

Students are considered to be in Good Standing when their behavior and attitude are consistent with the mission, philosophy, expectations, and standards of Rivermont. It is assumed that all students are in Good Standing; however, there may be times when this comes into question. Such circumstances include, but

are not limited to: social and/or academic warning or probation, suspension, and administrative or faculty concerns. Students not in Good Standing may be prohibited from participating in school activities and events.

Academic Warning/Probation

A student receiving three or more grades of C- or below at the end of any semester may be placed on Academic Warning. If, in the following semester, the student's performance does not improve, the student may be placed on Academic Probation. Continued lack of improvement could lead to the student's dismissal from Rivermont.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism

If education is to be worthwhile, you must be honest with yourself and with other people about your work. If you write an essay using someone else's words, allow someone else to do your homework for you, take a test and copy someone else's answers, or use notes you are not supposed to have with you - you learn little. Equally important, you are hurting other students whose grades may suffer when their work is compared with something you have borrowed from an outside source. If you ask another student to help you cheat, you are asking them to be as dishonest as you plan to be.

Plagiarism means using another person's words, ideas, or organization of thought and facts in a paper, project, or assignment without identifying where these came from. Your teachers will help you learn to research and use footnotes in order to meet the standards of written work set by colleges and universities.

The academic penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a zero on the work involved. All cases are reported to the administration and the student's family. In general, the work must be redone for no credit and additional disciplinary action may be imposed by the Division Director or Headmaster. Repeated incidents of cheating or plagiarism will result in a hearing before a faculty disciplinary committee with the possibility of suspension or dismissal from school.

Learning From Our or Other's Mistakes

The School reserves the right to raise any issue of discipline regarding a student at any school meeting, with the purpose of furthering the educational and learning exposure of students and the Rivermont Community.

Social Media Policy

Faculty, Staff, and Student Use of Social Networks and Blogs

Given the explosive growth and expansion of "social networking" technology such as MySpace, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, etc. and related resources such as blogs and other web-based discussion forums across all areas of modern life, Rivermont is in the process of developing a policy for using these networks in a

school-related context. The following are offered as guidance for faculty, staff, and students in lieu of a detailed policy.

- Interacting with each other on-line is no different than interacting face-to-face and we should maintain the principles of respect.
- Be cognizant that social networking activities may be visible to other students, parents, teachers, and staff members and thus reflect directly or indirectly on Rivermont.
- Exercise appropriate discretion (err on the side of caution) when using social networks for personal communications with other students, parents, teachers, and/or staff members.
- Balance the right of individual free expression with the valid interests of Rivermont in promoting and presenting its mission, culture, and values to the community at large as reflected by the public actions and statements of its students, parents, teachers, and staff members.

Please be aware that Rivermont considers discretion and prudent judgment in social networking activities to be a serious matter. Students, faculty, and staff may be subject to discipline for activities that are disruptive of the educational process, interfere with the work of the School, are contrary to the mission of the School, impinge on the rights of other students, employees, and/or members of the Rivermont Community, or have a direct or immediate effect on the discipline or general welfare of the School.

Student Attendance

Parents/guardians are responsible for insuring that students attend school. Students are expected to fulfill school obligations including attending classes, labs, appointments, assemblies, rehearsals, and practices. Students are responsible for all academic assignments, even on those occasions when school-sponsored activities may interfere with class attendance (athletic events, field trips, etc.). Absences fall into two categories: excused or unexcused. Students absent from class without reasonable excuse, as determined by the Division Director, will have that absence considered unexcused. The student will be subject to discipline and may, because of excessive absences, be subject to discipline up to and including the loss of credit for courses. The only excused absences that will be considered are student illnesses, family emergencies, medical or business appointments which cannot be arranged outside the school day, recognized religious holidays, or other compelling reasons approved by the Division Director.

There is no substitute for regular attendance. In order to help support the faculty in their endeavors to educate your child, please make regular, prompt, and active attendance a priority for your child. Parents can help by scheduling student appointments outside the school day and avoiding, whenever possible, having

students miss school for non-emergency situations, especially vacations or family trips.

Please inform the School – by phone or in person – of a student’s absence by 8:30 a.m. Absences should be reported to the receptionist (Early and Lower School – Tammi Burrell ext. 337; Middle and Upper School – Brittany Marietta ext. 301) or left on the School’s general voicemail box.

School Hours

Early Bird Day Care	7:30 am. – 8:15 a.m.
Early & Lower School	8:20 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Middle & Upper School	8:20 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Homework Club (Grades 4-12)	3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Day Care (PS-Grade 3)	3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Attendance Policy

Attendance in academic classes, physical education classes, study halls, and school functions is mandatory. While realizing that there are times when it is necessary for a student to be absent, it is Rivermont policy that the student is responsible for completing all missed assignments and class work in a timely manner upon returning to school. In Early and Lower School, students arriving at school after 10 a.m. or leaving before 12 p.m. will be considered absent and may be restricted from participation in co-curricular or extra-curricular activities that day. In Middle and Upper School, students must attend 4 or more class periods to be counted present for the day. If a student does not attend at least 4 class periods, they are considered absent and may be restricted from participation in co-curricular or extra-curricular activities that day.

Any student who misses a total of 10 classes in any given course per semester may lose credit for the year and forfeit the right to return in the fall or in the case of a senior, be denied the right to graduate. A student reaching this limit may submit a request for a waiver of this policy, along with supporting documentation, to the appropriate Division Director. The request will be reviewed in consultation with the Headmaster.

Tardiness Policy

Students are required to be on campus by 8:20 a.m., at which time they check-in with their advisor or teacher. Students arriving late should check-in with the receptionist. Oversleeping or forgetting items at home are not acceptable excuses for tardiness. Excessive tardiness will result in a meeting with the appropriate Division Director or Dean of Students and further incidents will be dealt with as a disciplinary issue. Tardiness for individual classes is handled by the classroom teacher. Generally, a detention is assigned after the third tardiness of a quarter. Tardiness of 20 minutes or more for a class will generally be treated as an absence from that class.

Unexcused Absences

Rivermont does not support absences due to extensions of vacations or family trips when school is in session. The same is true for absences during the school day. Teachers are under no obligation to extend deadlines, re-teach material, or re-schedule tests and/or quizzes under these circumstances. Students will, however, be allowed to make up the work missed and will not be penalized in the grading.

Parents should speak directly to the Division Director concerning student absences caused by family events, travel, or special circumstances. The Division Director will determine if an absence is deemed excused or unexcused.

A student who is absent from school is barred from attending or participating in any Rivermont after-school or evening activity, including athletic events, music or theatrical performances, dances, or parties on that particular day. Any exception to this policy must be approved by the appropriate Division Director.

Skipping class is unacceptable and disciplinary action will be taken. No credit will be given for work missed due to skipping class.

Arrivals and Departures

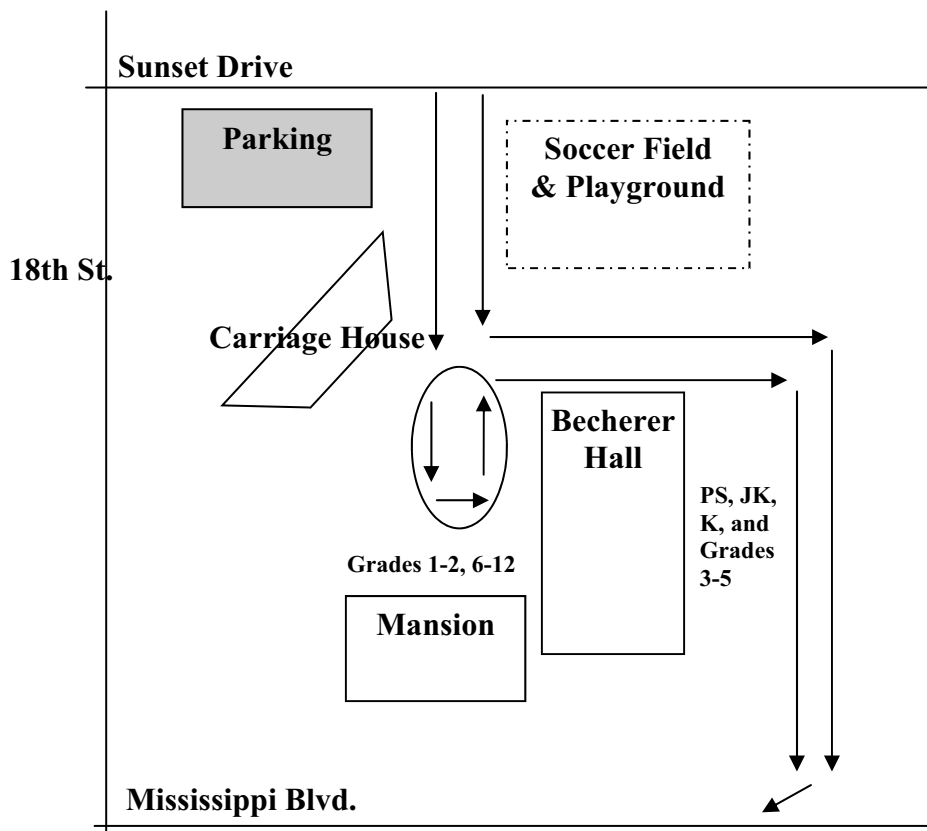
Students arriving before 8:00 a.m. must report to the following locations:
PreSchool & Junior Kindergarten - Day Care room (Becherer Hall lower level)
Grades K-5 - Becherer Hall Media Center
Grades 6-12 – Central Hall of Becherer Hall

Lower School students who arrive before 8:00 a.m., unless involved in a school activity, must report to the appropriate location above and parents will be billed at the standard Day Care rate.

Rivermont provides Day Care (Monday through Friday) for younger students and Homework Club (Monday through Friday) for older students who are on campus after school. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 3 must be in Day Care if they are on campus after 3:30 p.m. Students in Grades 4-12 must attend the after-school Homework Club if they are on campus after 3:30 p.m. The after-school Homework Club is supervised homework and study, led by a faculty member. Homework Club provides individual attention and focus on organization and subject-specific topics. The program runs from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Students remaining on campus after 5:30 p.m. will move from Homework Club to Day Care. Please consult the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org) for current prices for each of these programs.

Traffic on Campus

While on the Rivermont campus PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY and watch for pedestrians. Traffic on the campus is ONE-WAY ONLY with 2 lanes of traffic.



Upon entering from Sunset Drive, vehicles should stay in the right lane for drop-off or pick-up along the Main Circle (Grades 1, 2, 6-12). Vehicles should follow the left lane for the lower parking lot, gym, and for drop-off and pick-up from the Lower Lobby of Becherer Hall (PS, JK, K, Grades 3-5).

It is important to keep traffic moving and lanes clear during drop-off and pick-up times. If you need to enter the building, please park in one of the parking lots. Only cars with drivers in the driver's seat may stop along any sidewalks and must move when cars need to exit. Parking lot entrances and exits should be kept clear at all times.

Right lane traffic on campus is for drop-off and pick-up while left lane is for passing. Remember to observe the STOP sign at the exit on Mississippi Blvd.

School Bus

For the 2011-12 academic year, Rivermont has contracted with Johannes Bus Service to provide transportation service before and after school. Families may choose the morning route, afternoon route, or both routes. Bus routes are set long term and no occasional drop-in riders can be allowed. **In case the bus is not needed for the day (student illness, etc.), parents are asked to contact Johannes Bus Service at (309) 788-7932.** All other questions about bus service should be directed to Marsha Field in the Business Office. Additional information about the bus service and forms are available on the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org).

Visitor Parking

Visitors to campus are asked to park in the lot at the north end of campus, the designated visitor parking spots in front of the Carriage House, or the parking lot east of Becherer Hall. Please avoid spaces designated as *faculty only*.

Student Drivers

Upper School students who drive to school may not use their cars during the school day (except seniors with approved lunchtime permission). Students are to park in the parking lot on the north side of the Carriage House. Reckless driving or unauthorized use of an automobile will result in removal of the privilege of driving to school. Cars are not lockers or lounges. Students may not go back and forth to their cars during the school day. Should a student need access to his or her car during the school day, the student must sign out and back in at the Mansion front desk.

Leaving Campus

Rivermont is a closed campus. Except for seniors in Good Standing – who may sign out and leave campus at lunchtime with a permission form signed by a parent/guardian – students are not allowed to leave campus during the school day.

If it is necessary for a student to leave campus (for an appointment, for example), students in Grades 1 through 5 should present a signed note from a parent/guardian to the classroom teacher and/or contact Tammi Burrell at (563) 359-1366 ext. 337 or burrell@rvmt.org. Parents of students in Grades 6 through 12 should contact Brittany Marietta at (563) 359-1366 ext. 301 or marietta@rvmt.org and/or send a signed note. Advance notice is appreciated.

Recess and Nonscheduled Time

All students in PreSchool through Grade 5 have a daily outdoor recess (weather permitting). Please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for cold weather conditions, including hats, mittens, and boots. Students not wearing boots during wet or muddy weather must remain on the pavement. All students will go outside for recess unless they have a note from home. Parents of Lower

School students dressed inadequately for recess may be called to bring appropriate additional clothing.

During recess and lunch, students are expected to stay in assigned, visible areas. All students are expected to follow the direction of the playground supervisor. When weather permits, students may play on the soccer field and the playground. Students may not play in or near any building or near any parked cars. Students may play in the gym with permission from the playground supervisor. The playground supervisor will use a whistle to signal students on the playground. Students should, therefore, be familiar with the signals that follow:

One whistle – stop immediately.

Two whistles – stop, there is a car approaching.

Three whistles – line up in a single line and be quiet.

Students who act improperly on the playground will be reported to Director of Lower School for possible disciplinary action. Foul language, snowball throwing, tackling (including tackle football), and other forms of aggressive behavior are forbidden.

School Delays and Closings

Rivermont students come from numerous cities and towns in the area. The decision concerning school closing or delay is based on accessibility to campus and is most often made by 6:15 a.m. Parents should judge for themselves whether travel is safe from their particular locale.

Notice of school closing or delay is made in the following areas. It is wise to consult 2 or more of the areas, as some venues experience technical problems in delivering information.

1. **Call Rivermont** (563-359-1366). The automated attendant is updated to announce delays and closings.
2. **Check the Rivermont website** (www.rvmt.org). The website is updated to announce delays and closings.
3. **TV:** KWQC-TV6, WQAD-TV8, WHBF-TV4, KLJB-TV18
4. **Radio**
 - a. QC Radio Group: WOC-AM 1420, WLLR-FM 103.7, KCQQ-FM 106.5, KUUL-FM 101.3, KMXG-FM 96.1
 - b. Cumulus Radio Group: KBOB-FM, KORB-FM 93.5, KQLI-FM, WXLP-FM 97, KJOC-AM 1170
5. **Web**
 - a. <http://www.kwqc.net/news/school.html>
 - b. <http://www.wqad.com/weather/closings/>

Student Dress Code

Rivermont expects students to dress in a manner that is both appropriate to the activity at hand and demonstrates respect for self and the community. Students, with the help of their parents, should use good judgment and common sense in choosing attire. Certain activities call for different codes of attire and the School expects students to dress accordingly. In all cases, however, students are expected to be well-groomed and wear clothing that is clean, in good repair (no holes, frayed hems, or overly worn fabric), and fits correctly. The administration reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of a student's attire. A student deemed to be out of dress code will not be allowed to attend class and may be required to call home for a change of clothing.

In the Early School through Grade 2, it is important for students to be able to care for themselves and therefore students should dress accordingly. In Grades 3 through 12, students may wear pants, jeans, dresses, skirts, and walking shorts (mid-thigh to knee) with a sleeved shirt or top. All pants are to be worn at the natural waistline and should not be designed to be worn significantly below (undergarments or bare midriff should never be visible). Designs or styles may not relate to illegal or illicit themes. This includes but is not limited to: alcohol, drugs, violence, hate, paramilitary, and/or suggestive images or designs.

Athletic or workout pants and shorts are not acceptable regular school dress.

Due to the many stairs on campus and the School's hands-on laboratory science program, all students are expected to wear shoes with an enclosed heel or heel strap. Hats are not to be worn inside buildings. This includes any head covering not of a primarily religious or medical nature.

Field Trip Dress and Special Dress Days

Certain days will be designated as *Special Dress* days and students will be expected to dress more formally than on a regular school day.

Rivermont often takes advantage of venues outside of school to enhance its programs. When students participate in field trips, they represent Rivermont to the general public and are expected to dress more formally than they would for a regular school day. The teacher leading the field trip will inform students of any modifications of the dress code that might be dictated by a particular locale. In general, for field trips and special dress days, students should wear dresses, dress slacks, or skirts and collared, sleeved shirts or tops. Students may not wear jeans, shorts, t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, or other casual clothing.

Library and Media Resources

Media Center / Waterman Library

Books, tapes, magazines, and selected reference materials are available in the Media Center, located in Becherer Hall, for checkout on a two-week basis. Students who have overdue materials will be unable to check out additional materials until all overdue materials are returned. Any library materials that are damaged or are not returned within a reasonable time after the due date must be repaired or replaced at the student's expense.

Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency #9

Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency #9 is a resource Rivermont teachers use for curriculum consultants, materials, textbooks, library books, and A/V supplies. Materials are delivered and returned weekly through the librarian. A/V and print catalogues are available in the teacher's workroom and the library.

Computer Network Acceptable Use Policy

Internet access is available to all students and teachers at Rivermont. The Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources. With this access comes the availability of material that is not considered appropriate in a school setting. Access to such material is actively discouraged; however, on a global network, it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious student may discover inappropriate information. We firmly believe that the valuable information available on the Internet far outweighs inherent risks. The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users. In general, this requires ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. If a Rivermont student violates any of these provisions, his or her access will be terminated and future access may be denied.

Terms and Conditions

The purpose of NSFNET, which is the backbone network of the Internet, is to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the United States by providing access to resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of your account must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of Rivermont. Transmission of any material in violation of any U.S. or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyrighted material, defamatory, threatening, or obscene material, or material protected by a trade secret. Use for commercial activities, product advertisement, or political lobbying is not acceptable.

Privileges

The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The system administrator, Division Directors, and/or Headmaster will deem what is inappropriate and their judgment supersedes all prior oral or written agreements and understandings.

These terms and conditions shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Iowa and the United States of America.

Netiquette

Users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Be polite. Do not be abusive in your messages to others.
- Use appropriate language. Do not swear or use vulgarities.
- Do not reveal your address, phone number, or other personal information, or the personal information of other students or teachers.
- E-mail is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the authorities.
- Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network by other users.
- All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property.

Rivermont makes no warranties of any kind for the service it is providing. Rivermont will not be responsible for any damages you suffer, including loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or your errors. Use of any information obtained via computer communication is at your own risk. Rivermont denies any responsibility for the accuracy of information obtained through its services.

Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem on the network, you must notify the Director of Technology. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log-on to the network as a system administrator will result in cancellation of privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the Rivermont system.

Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user. This includes the uploading, creation, or intentional downloading of computer viruses.

Using school computers for games, instant messaging, or participating in recreational "chat rooms" is a wasteful use of a valuable resource during times when others might want to use computers for educational purposes. Students are not allowed to have instant messaging software active when they are at the computer. If you do not know how to deactivate this software, please see the Director of Technology.

Lunch Program

Hot Lunch – Each day, one main dish is served in addition to soup, fruit, yogurt, cereal, milk, and other snacks. Each item may be purchased separately. Students wishing to order the hot lunch entrée do so at the beginning of the school day with either their homeroom teacher (Grades K-5) or advisor (Grades 6-12).

The menu is posted on the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org) so choices may be made in advance. Students are asked to bring a sufficient amount of money daily to cover the cost of their selection or lunches may be paid for in advance by making a deposit in the Business Office (beginning with a minimum amount of \$50).

Sack Lunches – Students may bring a sack lunch. Items that need to be refrigerated may be placed in the designated refrigerator. Students may purchase milk, soup, fruit, or other items to supplement their lunch. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 5 keep their lunches in their classrooms; students in Grade 6 through 12 keep their lunches in their lockers.

Snack Break – Students in Grades 6-12 receive a break from classes from 10:25 – 10:40 a.m., during which time they may purchase various snack items and beverages from the cafeteria including cookies, muffins, cereal, fruit, yogurt, milk, juice, and water.

Dining Room – Our dining area serves a variety of functions. Teachers assigned to lunchroom duties require that students pick up after themselves in order to keep the dining room clean. Students are to be seated properly and eat in an appropriate manner. No food is taken from the dining room except for supervised school functions or meetings. Students are excused at the end of the lunch period according to the directions of the supervising teachers. Tables and chairs are to be cleaned by the students after each lunch period.

Pop vending machines are not accessible to students during the school day. Students may purchase water and juice from vending machines during the school day and have access to juice, water, and milk at lunch and snack break (Grades 6-12).

Traditions and Special Events

Student Guests - Students are encouraged to invite friends to Admission events. No visitors will be allowed during the school day the first and last week of each semester. Students who wish to bring visitors should see the Director of Admissions to make arrangements.

Back-to-School-Night and BBQ – This evening is designed for parents to learn about the academic goals for the current school year. It is an opportunity to meet your child’s teachers, view their teaching materials, and ask questions. It is also a terrific opportunity to meet and/or catch up with other Rivermont families.

Grandparents’ and Special Friends’ Day – This event takes place each Wednesday before Thanksgiving, in the hope that family members may be in town and able to attend. Names and addresses are gathered by teachers and invitations are mailed several weeks in advance. Grandparents and special adult friends of students arrive at school and participate in an abbreviated schedule of classes and enjoy a special program at the end of the morning. Dismissal follows the program at 11:30 a.m. If a grandparent is unable to attend, another relative or adult special to the child is welcome to attend instead.

Teacher Conferences – This is an opportunity to meet with your child’s teachers to discuss academic progress made during the current grading period. Middle and Upper School students attend these conferences with their parents.

Academic Fair – This exciting day is the culmination of months of research and preparation. Students in Grades 2 through 11 prepare research-based projects in a number of different academic areas. Students are required to prepare a written, oral, and visual presentation of their research. Judges meet with students and review their work. In the evening, everyone (students, parents, and faculty) gathers to view projects, hear presentations, and learn the results of those projects entered in competition. This is definitely a unique Rivermont event and a must see for everyone!

O.L.E. Day –Outdoor Learning Experience (O.L.E.) is a daylong opportunity, in a local park or nature preserve, for Rivermont students to participate in activities designed to educate them about the environment in which they live.

Pancake Tuesday – This tradition dates back to the early days of the School and is held on Mardi Gras. Students and faculty enjoy a lunch of pancakes and sausages. Hidden in the pancakes are tokens that predict the fortune of the individual. Everyone delights in the *predictions* of their future. Many students *stack* the deck with several pancakes hoping for a more inclusive fortune.

International Week - A weeklong series of presentations and classes, giving students the opportunity to learn about other cultures and languages. International Week culminates with International Food Fest on Friday afternoon in Becherer Hall.

Musical Programs – Students in each of the School’s divisions present musical programs that highlight the lessons and instruments they have been learning.

These performances are scheduled at different times in the school year and are announced in classroom newsletters, *HEADlines*, and on the school website.

Lunch on the Lawn – Pack a picnic lunch, bring a blanket, and join your child(ren) for a meal at the usual lunch period. If you have several children attending Rivermont, you may have a long lunch period that day in May!

SpringFest – This annual spring musical performance is accompanied by a display of student artwork.

Imp-Tiger Competitions – In Kindergarten, or upon the entrance to Rivermont, each student draws a card determining whether she or he is an Imp or Tiger. The student remains an Imp or Tiger forever. Several times during the school year, students participate in Olympic-style competitions, earning points for their respective teams. Students are encouraged to wear their team colors on these days (Imps-green, Tigers-orange). Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Middle and Upper School Awards Assembly – Held near the end of the school year, this event honors students for their accomplishments, both academic and athletic.

Lower School Promotion – Held near the end of the school year, this very special morning recognizes each student in the Lower School. Students are presented certificates of promotion and receive participation awards for contests and competitions. This morning is a celebration and recognition of the many achievements, contests, competitions, and activities in the Lower School.

Middle and Upper School Trips – Chaperoned by several teachers, the students take an all-day trip to an amusement park or other location determined by the faculty and students. This event usually occurs the day before commencement.

Auction – Good food, good friends, good fun, and of course, a good cause all come together as faculty, staff, parents, friends, and alumni gather for this annual event. This major fund raising activity provides numerous opportunities for parents to be involved. Silent and live auction items are secured at all price levels. Parents are encouraged to attend and bring guests.

Commencement – The final activity of the school year. All Upper School students are required to attend. Parents of Upper School students are encouraged to assist with this event honoring the graduates, their parents, and families.

School Awards

Lower School

Ken Ferris Citizenship Award – Presented to the Grade 5 student who best exemplifies the qualities of positive, loyal citizenship.

Presidential Award for Educational Excellence – The Headmaster, as an agent of the President of the United States, distributes certificates to Grade 5 students for academic achievement as evidenced by a cumulative A- or higher grade average and recent standardized test score in the 85th percentile or higher.

Middle & Upper School

Bookidis Award – Annually awarded to the student in Grades 6 through 12 who has achieved the highest cumulative quarterly grade point average during the school year.

Bishop's Prize – Presented, when merited, to that member of the senior class who has achieved the highest cumulative semester grade point average over Grades 10, 11, and 12 at Rivermont.

Larned A. Waterman School Service Award – A prize given to that member of the senior class who has served the School, his or her fellow students, and/or the Quad City community in an exemplary fashion.

Daughters of the American Revolution Citizenship Award – Awarded annually to a student in Grades 11-12 who has demonstrated kindness, proper etiquette, and good citizenship.

Iowa State Bar Association Award – This prize may be awarded annually to a senior for exemplary character and service to community, school, and fellow students.

Presidential Award for Educational Excellence – The Headmaster, representing the President of the United States, distributes certificates to 8th and 12th graders for academic achievement as evidenced by a cumulative A- or higher grade average and recent standardized test score in the 85th percentile or higher.

President's Award for Educational Improvement – The purpose of this award is to recognize students in Grades 8 and 12 who show outstanding educational growth, improvement, commitment, or

intellectual development in academic subjects. Recipients are chosen by faculty members.

Senior Achievement Prize – Given occasionally by the Headmaster upon recommendation by the faculty for exceptional work by a senior.

Getz Drama Award – Donated by alumna Kaye Spelletich Getz ('35), this award is presented annually to a thespian for outstanding contributions to the Rivermont theater program.

Small English Prize – Named for a loyal Rivermont family, this award is given annually to a student in Grades 9-12 for excellence in English language and literature.

Millar Athletic Award – Presented to the School by former trustee Gordon Millar, this plaque is awarded to a student in Grades 9-12 who excels in one or more sports and exhibits the quality of exemplary sportsmanship.

Dorothy Strohm Mathematics Plaque – Upon her 25th anniversary as a Rivermont mentor, the faculty created this plaque in Dorothy's honor to award annually to a student in Grades 10-12 who shows high achievement and promise in mathematics.

Bausch & Lomb Science Medal – This nationally recognized medal is given annually to the junior who exhibits unusually high levels of scientific inquiry and mastery.

Art Prize – May be awarded annually by the Art Department to the outstanding artist in Grades 11-12.

Foreign Language Prize – May be awarded annually by the Foreign Language Department to a student who has shown outstanding growth and achievement in a non-English language.

Journalism Award – May be presented annually by the School for journalistic accomplishments in Grades 6-12.

History Award – May be given annually to the student in Grades 6-12 who has shown outstanding interest and achievement in social studies.

George F. Neiley Award for Writing – Given in the name of long-time Board of Trustees President George F. Neiley for excellence in writing.

Music Award – May be given annually to the student in Grades 6-12 who has shown outstanding interest and achievement in music.

Dr. Michael A. Novello Technology Award – Presented annually to that student in Grades 9-12 who demonstrates leadership in the integration of technology in his or her studies.

Computer Science Award – May be presented annually to the student making the greatest contribution to the School and showing the highest level of achievement in the field of computer science and technology.

Science Award – May be presented annually to a student in Grades 6-12 who has demonstrated outstanding interest and achievement in the field of science.

Endowed Scholarships and Awards

The JoAnn Tyler Memorial Scholarship – Herb and Maryann Tyler established this scholarship in memory of Mr. Tyler's sister. Funds generated from this endowment help provide tuition assistance to deserving students in Grades 1 through 12.

Edward E. Ford Foundation Scholars – Established in 1986, by matching funds from the Edward E. Ford Foundation (Providence, Rhode Island) and the Len R. Small family (Moline, Illinois), two students in Grades 9-12 who qualify for financial aid and demonstrate significant academic merit are supported with partial scholarships from this endowed Rivermont fund.

The Cynthia Neiley Hyde ('62) Memorial Scholarship – This scholarship is presented annually to a qualified student in Grades 6-12. The fund was established in 1987 by Mrs. Hyde's family and friends.

The Elizabeth Kahl Figge Memorial Scholarship – The revenues from this trust, established in 1988 by V.O. Figge in loving memory of his wife Betty, annually help support a student of unusual academic promise in Grades K-12.

The Kelly and Heather Sigler Memorial Scholarship – Named for two Rivermont students who tragically lost their lives in 1989, this fund was endowed by the family and friends of Kelly and Heather and is awarded annually to a student in Grades 6-12.

The Conley A. Dooley Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund – Students, family, and friends established this scholarship fund in his memory in May, 1993. Mr. Dooley taught English and was the Drama Director for two years. An

annual stipend is awarded to a deserving Grade K -12 student who demonstrates need.

The Marcus L. Jarrett Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund – Marked by his community involvement and commitment, family and friends established this scholarship fund in his memory in December, 1994. The scholarship is awarded annually to a student in Grades K-12.

The Max Becherer Scholarship – This scholarship was established in September 1998 by the Becherer family and friend in memory of Max Becherer, Class of 1985. Max developed a passion for computers while attending SKSM (now Rivermont). He graduated from Knox College and did graduate work at the University of Illinois. He was working for a technology firm in San Jose, California when he died in August 1998.

The Reed Capen Foster Memorial Scholarship – This scholarship has partially funded the tuition assistance grant. This scholarship was established by Mr. & Mrs. Mel Foster, Jr., family, and friends in memory of the Foster's son, Reed Capen Foster.

The Patricia J. Kloster Memorial Scholarship – This scholarship was established by family and friends in memory of Patricia Kloster, who was the Headmaster's secretary for over 20 years. Her love and compassion for the students, families, and her colleagues was unstinting.

The Robert V.P. Waterman Scholarship – This scholarship was established in memory of Bob Waterman by his family and friends.

The Janet R. Gezel Scholarship – Janet R. Gezel, 1944 Alumna of St. Katharine's School, established the Gezel Scholarship in 2009. The Gezel Scholarship will fund two (2) academic excellence scholarships equal to one-half (1/2) of the annual tuition. These scholarships will be awarded solely on the basis of academic excellence as determined by the School through its Headmaster or his/her designee. One scholarship will be given to a student entering Grades 4-7 and the second to a student entering Grades 8-12. It is the intent that a student receive this scholarship only once while in a set range of grades. Any student who has already received this scholarship will be excluded from the ranking cohort for that set of grades. Recipients of this scholarship will be named at Rivermont's end-of-year awards assemblies.

Endowed Teaching Chair

The Larned A. Waterman Chair of Distinguished Teaching – In memory of her husband Larned A. Waterman, a prominent Quad City leader and attorney, Mary Waterman endowed this chair in 1988. The chair is awarded annually by a

committee of trustees (including the Headmaster) to a Rivermont faculty member for outstanding teaching. The annual proceeds from this endowment are then used to support the teacher's salary and to provide an additional stipend to be used for further professional growth activities. The teacher selected gives two public presentations on the results of his or her advanced study.

Department Fund

The John M. Syverud, II Endowed Foreign Language Fund – This fund was established in March 1993 following the death of Dr. and Mrs. John M. Syverud's youngest son. The fund supports educational material for the Rivermont Foreign Language department.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Fire Emergency

Becherer Hall

Faculty, staff, students, and visitors should follow the instructions posted on the emergency procedure cards located on the wall at the entrance to every classroom and major room on campus, including restrooms. These emergency procedure cards give directions for the fire procedure to follow for that specific location, as well as a map to illustrate the evacuation route. In the event the fire alarm sounds, all students should remain quiet, follow the teachers' directions, and proceed to the soccer field.

Auditorium, Central Hall, & Men's Restroom (Upper Level) – Exit through the southwest exit and report to the soccer field.

Classroom 1, 2, 3 – Exit the classroom and report to the soccer field.

Classroom 4, 5, & Lower Level Computer Lab – Exit classroom and proceed to the northeast exit, then report to the soccer field.

Men's & Women's Restroom (Lower Level) – Exit restroom and proceed out the southeast exit, then report to the soccer field.

Classroom 6 & 7, Women's Restroom (Upper Level) – Exit classroom down the southeast stairway to ground level. Exit through the southeast exit and report to the soccer field.

Classroom 8, 9, Media Center, & Faculty Workroom 11 – Exit classroom down the northeast stairway to ground level. Exit through northeast exit and report to the soccer field.

Kitchen 115 – Exit kitchen into corridor and use emergency exit (single door) in corridor. Report to the soccer field.

Stage – Exit stage/auditorium through stage exit, use the emergency exit straight ahead across corridor, and report to the soccer field.

Mansion

Classrooms and offices without fire escapes follow the main staircase and exit through the student door. Then report to the soccer field.

Classrooms and offices with fire escapes exit out the south side of the building (fire exits) and gather on the south terrace. Then report to the soccer field by the safest route.

Carriage House

Main floor classrooms use the north entrances and report to the soccer field.

Second floor classrooms use the east and west stairways and exit the south doors. Then report to the soccer field.

Wallace House

Leave by the nearest exit and assemble on the east side of the parking lot, then report to the soccer field by the safest route.

Once all groups have evacuated their buildings to the designated sites, all groups will proceed to the soccer field. Roll will be taken on the soccer field to account for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

Evacuation Procedure

- Always evacuate in the direction furthest from the threat using the safest route.
- Faculty/staff call 911.
- Evacuations for fire are announced with the alarm.
- The intercom system or room to room contact is used for other evacuations.

Predesignated Evacuation Sites

1. Rivermont soccer field East Side
Initial gathering at Rivermont soccer field East Side
2. Asbury Methodist Church (563) 355-5218

For building level problems students evacuate to Asbury Methodist Church. Church property abuts the school campus and even the youngest children can evacuate by walking to the church.

3. Mississippi Bend AEA (563) 359-1371

In the event of a HAZMET inside the building or a plane crash that necessitates an uphill evacuation, Mississippi Bend AEA (729 21st St., Bettendorf) is the evacuation site. This property is three blocks from campus and 1 block from the playground. Students in grades JK and up are able to walk with their teachers to AEA. Students age 3 and students with ambulatory problems will be driven to AEA by the Division Head in the white activity bus.

4. Trinity Hospital Terrace Park (563) 742-5000

FACULTY/STAFF DOCUMENT STUDENT DEPARTURES FROM THE EVACUATION SITE.

Weather Emergencies

Tornadoes

Precautionary measures are taken when the School is notified by the Scott County Civil Defense Alerting System of a tornado warning or of a weather alert. Faculty, staff, students, and visitors should follow the instructions posted on the emergency procedure cards located on the wall at the entrance to every classroom and major room on campus, including restrooms. These emergency procedure cards give directions for the tornado procedure to follow for that specific location, as well as a map to illustrate the route to shelter. In case of a severe weather threat:

1. Announcement will be made over the PA system that drill will take place within 60 minutes.
2. No students will go to the Wallace House during that time. Wallace House teachers will relocate classes to Lower School classrooms or the Mansion.
3. Lower School students will remain in classrooms. Special teachers will go to student classrooms for class.
4. Drill alarm will sound.
5. Everyone will evacuate to their designated secure place (see below).
6. One teacher in each of the following areas will be responsible for taking roll using lists provided: Becherer Hall, Mansion, and Carriage House.
7. The Headmaster (are on alternate) will begin with the Carriage House and collect attendance. The Assistant Headmaster (or alternate) will begin with Becherer Hall and both will move toward the Mansion for all-school check.
8. When all clear is sounded, everyone may return to classrooms and offices.

Becherer Hall

Alert signal is a strobe light and voice message. Teachers bring a working flashlight and exit as follows:

Auditorium, Stage, & Kitchen – Exit room and follow Central Hall corridor to stairway. Walk downstairs and line up in lower level hallway.

Classroom 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Men's & Women's Restroom (Lower Level) & Lower Level Computer Lab – Exit the room to the interior hallway and line up along the wall.

Classroom 6, 7, & Men's & Women's Restrooms (Upper Level) – Exit room to the southeast stairway to the ground level. Line up along the wall of the interior lower level hallway.

Classroom 8, 9, Faculty Workroom 11, & Media Center – Exit room to the northeast stairway to ground level. Line up along the wall in the interior lower level hallway.

Mansion

Alert signal is a strobe light and voice message. Under the direction of teachers, the following evacuation plan will be implemented:

Classrooms and offices on the east half of the building follow the main staircase to the gym tunnel.

Classrooms and offices on the west half of the building, exit down the main staircase to the Carriage House tunnel.

Carriage House

Alert signal is a strobe light and voice message. Under the direction of teachers, the following evacuation plan will be implemented:

Use the west stairway to the Carriage House tunnel.

Wallace House

Alert signal is an alarm. Under the direction of teachers, the following evacuation plan will be implemented:

Use stairway and assemble in the basement hallway.

Blizzards

In case of a blizzard or severe storm during the school day, teachers are alerted and students remain in their classrooms and follow the planned daily schedule. Parents may contact the School and arrange to pick-up their child at any time.

Students unable to get home at the end of the school day will be cared for by the day care supervisor and the Assistant Head in Becherer Hall. The supervising adults will remain with the students until all are released to parents/guardians.

Other Weather Threats

During inclement weather, the School monitors local radio stations for weather bulletins.

Threat

Damage to Bldg.

Threat Action

Faculty/staff call 911

Evacuate, search & rescue, first aid

Student departure is documented

Snowstorm

Parents may pick up their children any time

Teachers document student departures

Students waiting for rides after school is

dismissed remain under the supervision of

the Assistant Head

Earthquake

1. Drop to floor to prevent falling.
2. Take cover under a sturdy desk or table near an interior wall.
3. Make yourself as small as possible – protect head, neck, and chest.
4. Hold on – cover head with hands and arms.

When shaking has stopped:

1. Staff members immediately assist any injured student following first aid protocol. Nonambulatory injured wait for treatment where they are, unless it is more dangerous to remain. Staff members extinguish any small fires.
2. When safe, staff members take coats, classroom emergency contact information (Lower School), cell phone and/or purse, and escort students out of the building by the safest exit and report to the soccer field. Depending on the severity of the quake, pipes and gas lines may break and the building will need to be evacuated until deemed safe. Colleagues are advised to check adjacent classrooms; it is best to exit the building with two adults – one in front and one in back of the group.
3. Attendance is taken at the soccer field and administration give instructions for any further evacuation.

After the drill/earthquake:

Students and teachers debrief by discussing lessons learned in the drill or earthquake – identifying items that may fall off shelves and items that should be secured or stored more safely.

Special instructions:

Labs – Extinguish burners, turn off gas, and avoid chemical storage areas.

Outside – Avoid buildings and power lines.

Bus/Automobile – STOP! Avoid overpasses, power lines, bridges, and buildings. Call 911, then Headmaster/Division Head.

Medical Emergency

In the event of an emergency or serious illness, staff members evaluate the situation and either designate a nearby adult or student to get assistance from another school employee or call 911 immediately. Parents are then notified.

Anaphylaxis – Acute Allergic Reaction

Symptoms include hives, swelling (especially of the lips and face), difficulty breathing, vomiting, and/or diarrhea. In the event of an attack, policy is to:

1. Administer Epinephrine (Epi-pen) if prescribed – through clothing, even jeans
2. Call 911
3. Administer dosage of Benadryl if prescribed
4. Contact parent

Heart Attack

Symptoms include pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in the center of the chest, pain that radiates to the shoulders, neck, arms, back, jaws or teeth, lightheaded feeling, fainting, nausea, sweating, and/or shortness of breath. In the event of an attack, policy is to:

1. Call 911
2. Administer CPR or use AED if trained
3. Contact Division Head
4. Contact parent and/or relative

Faculty/staff certified in CPR and AED: Carey DeWitt, Sue Johnson, Gwen Pokora, Connie Wheeler, Sara Hauser, Ed Knupp, Shalar Brown

AED LOCATED IN CABINET ABOVE WATER FOUNTAIN ADJACENT TO UPPER LEVEL WOMEN'S RESTROOM IN BECHERER HALL.

In Case of Poisoning

In the event of poisoning, faculty/staff call 911 and the Poison Control Center located at University of Iowa Hospital: 1-800-272-6477.

Dental Emergency

In the event of a dental emergency, staff members evaluate the situation and follow these general procedures:

Broken Tooth - Gently clean dirt or debris from the injured area with warm water. Place cold compresses on the face nearest the area. Contact the parent/guardian to transport child to the dentist immediately.

Knocked Out Tooth - If the tooth is dirty, rinse it gently in running water. Do not scrub it. Gently insert and hold the tooth in its socket, if this is not possible, place the tooth in a container of milk or cold water. Contact parent/guardian to transport child to the dentist immediately.

Incident Reports (Accident/Injury Report)

Incidents involving a student, such as injuries, accidents resulting in injury, or minor changes in health status, are reported to parents on the day of the incident. In addition, the person in charge at the time of the incident completes a Rivermont Collegiate Accident/Injury Report. The person completing the form signs and dates it and also ensures a parent or guardian signs and dates it. A copy of the report is filed in the student's cumulative file, as well as in the Lower School Office and/or Business Office (MS and US). A third copy is given to a parent or guardian at the time of signature.

Incidents resulting in serious injury or significant change in health status shall be reported immediately to the parent. Serious injury is defined as an injury that requires follow-up observation and/or treatment by a parent or guardian and/or requires a medical or dental examination. Examples include:

- Laceration requiring stitches
- Head injury and/or loss of consciousness
- Injury to eyes, teeth, or bone
- Loss of a permanent tooth
- Convulsions
- Nosebleed that doesn't stop after 15 minutes of pressure
- Asthma attack not responding to medication

Significant changes in health status are defined as unexplained changes in a child's daily behavior or activities of daily living. Examples include:

- Sudden change in self care
- Loss of consciousness or change in level of consciousness
- Whimpers, cries, or exhibits gestures of pain and/or discomfort that cannot be consoled or relieved

Emergency Lock-down Procedure

In the event of a threatening situation such as (but not limited to) an intruder, abduction, weapons present, or shots fired, a speaker on the intercom will give the direction “**Student One to your classroom.**” This direction instructs teachers and staff to follow lock-down procedures. Students not in a classroom should report to the nearest classroom or office. Teachers and classes enroute to their classroom should report to the nearest classroom or office. Lock-down procedure may be used in situations of verbal or physical threats and can be initiated by any employee who senses a threatening situation. In most cases, the employee will recognize the threatening person. It may be a parent, relative, former parent, or current or former employee. Often times these are people who have behaved in a normal manner in the past.

Faculty, staff, students, and visitors should follow the instructions posted on emergency procedure cards located on the wall at the entrance to every classroom and major room on campus, including restrooms. These emergency procedure cards give directions for lock-down procedure to follow for that specific location. The majority of locations need just lock the classroom door and move students as far from the doorway as possible. Classrooms or other rooms located near hallway entrances or main building entrances may have additional instructions to lock hallway or exterior doors in addition to their classroom door. Anyone in a restroom when lock-down is announced should report to the nearest classroom immediately.

<u>Threat</u>	<u>Threat Action</u>
Intruder	Faculty/staff assess situation Faculty/staff activate lock-down procedure Student departure is documented
Abduction or Missing Student	Premises are searched Faculty/staff calls 911 Parents/guardians are notified Obtain clothing, description and photo
Violent (shots fired or weapons)	Faculty/staff call 911 Faculty/staff activate lock-down procedure
Non-violent Behavior	Faculty/staff assess situation Faculty/staff activate lock-down procedure Faculty/staff call 911

Security - Open entrances

Mansion - Main entrance, Student door, West entrance
Becherer Hall - Southwest entrance, adjacent to Mansion
Carriage House - East and West entries
Wallace House – Main entrance

Other Emergencies

<u>Threat</u>	<u>Threat Action</u>
Structural Failure	Director Bldg/Grounds is notified Faculty/staff call 911 Evacuate Parents/guardians are contacted Student departure is documented
Car-Accident	Faculty/staff check for injuries, give first aid Faculty/staff call 911 Parents/guardians are contacted Student departure is documented
Bus Accident	Faculty/staff check for injuries, give first aid Faculty/staff call 911 Parents/guardians are contacted Student departure is documented
Aircraft crashes into bldg.	Faculty/staff call 911 Evacuate, up hill and up wind Faculty/staff provide first aid Gas and electricity are shut off
on school grounds	Faculty/staff call 911 Keep students/staff in building Anyone outside, return to building Do not evacuate unless threatened by explosion or fire
No utilities	Mid American Energy is notified Iowa American Water is notified Any downed power lines are monitored
Gas Leak	Do Not turn anything on/off in the area Do Not use walkie talkies or cell phones Mid American Energy is notified Faculty/staff call 911 Evacuate if necessary Student departure is documented
HAZMET outside	Faculty/staff call 911 Students/staff kept inside Ventilation is shut off Windows & doors are closed

	Students & staff are moved to interior of bldg.
HAZMET inside	Faculty/staff call 911 Evacuate uphill or up wind
Nuclear Accident	Move students/staff to center and lowest part of the building: Mansion - gym tunnel or Carriage House tunnel Becherer Hall - teacher's workroom Carriage House - tunnel Wallace House - basement hall Shut off all ventilation Tune in disaster radio alerts
Flood	Notify Headmaster or Assistant Head Parents/guardians are contacted for pick up If campus should need to be evacuated, students will be transported to one of the designated evacuation sites: Asbury Methodist Church Mississippi Bend AEA former Neil Strong Elementary gymnasium

Hazardous Materials/Serious Structural Damage Emergency

In the event that a hazardous situation or structural damage occurs at the School, teachers in classrooms in the affected area will be notified by the Division Director, and students will be moved to a safe location on campus.

Should the entire Rivermont campus need to be evacuated, students will be taken to one of the designated evacuation sites – the soccer field, Asbury Methodist Church, Mississippi Bend AEA, or the former Neil Armstrong Elementary School gymnasium – and the School will contact parents/guardians.

Bomb Threat and Search

Note: Do not use radios, fire alarm, turn lights on or off, or otherwise create static within the building which may set off the bomb. Use of the intercom is permissible. **THE USE OF A CELL PHONE IS PERMISSIBLE OUTSIDE.**

- Headmaster and/or Division Head is notified
- Information is gathered on the caller (ex: time of call, gender/age of caller, exact words spoken, length of call, phone number called)
- Faculty/staff call 911

- Evacuate buildings via intercom system or room to room contact
- Gas is shut off

Suspicious Object Procedure

1. Object is NOT to be touched or moved
2. Headmaster and/or Division Head is notified
3. Faculty/staff call 911
4. Building is evacuated

Suicide, Death of Student/Staff

Threat of suicide in school - any note or verbal statement - is taken seriously.

- Headmaster and/or Division Head is notified
- Genesis support counselor is called
- Counselor
 - a. Evaluates the situation
 - b. Confers with Headmaster and/or Division Head
 - c. Requests services as needed
- Headmaster and/or Division Head contacts parent
- When appropriate, it may be necessary for the Headmaster and/or Division Head to contact child protective authorities.

Suicide or Death During School Day

- Students are cleared from area
- Headmaster or Division Head is notified
- Headmaster or Division Head contacts parent and/or emergency contacts on file for the student
- Headmaster contacts authorities and develops crisis plan

Suicide or Death When School is not in Session

- School Head implements calling tree to notify staff
- School Head, Division Heads develop a crisis plan

Security

Rivermont is concerned about the increased incidence of violence in society, which has filtered into many workplaces and schools throughout the United States. Accordingly, Rivermont has taken steps to help prevent incidents of violence from occurring here. Rivermont does not tolerate any acts or threats of violence by any employee, former employee, student, parent, visitor, or other member of the Rivermont Community on the school's premises at any time or while they are engaged in business with or on behalf of the School, on or off campus. Any reports of violence or threats will be promptly and thoroughly

investigated and, where warranted, appropriate action will be taken, including disciplinary actions, up to and including suspension, and reports to local police authority if criminal laws have been violated.

Campus Visitors

It is extremely important – in order to maintain campus security – that we know who is on campus at all times. All guests are required to sign-in at the front desk in either the Mansion or Becherer Hall upon arrival. Unauthorized visitors will be asked to leave campus.

Health Services

The School does not employ a full time nurse or physician. The Scott County Health Department’s nurse visits Rivermont on a regular basis and is available to faculty and students if arrangements are made in advance. Rivermont requires a packet of health information to be completed for students entering PreSchool, Junior Kindergarten, and Kindergarten, which is due on or before opening day of school. Students entering Kindergarten and 9th grade are also required to complete a Certificate of Dental Screening. All parents are asked to complete a Health Information / Emergency Care in Parental Absence form at the beginning of each school year to ensure each student has current health information on file, including medications, known allergies, and special health problems, as well as secondary contacts in the event of student emergency or illness when a parent/guardian is unable to be reached. Students in 4th-12th who plan to participate in extracurricular sports must also complete a Sports Physical Form each year. All required forms can be found on the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org) under the “Parents” tab.

Dispensation of Medication

Occasionally, a parent may ask the School to dispense medication during the school day. **School staff may administer medication only if the properly completed authorization form, available at either front desk or the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org), is on file.** This form must be updated yearly. Parents wanting a student in Grades 2-12 to carry an asthma inhaler must complete the student permission form and provide the signature of the attending physician. Medications for dispensation must be given to one of the following staff members and stored in a secure location. The staff member will note the medication, student name, date, and dosage on the medication log.

Medication Certification Contacts:

Sue Johnson, Bonnie Campbell, Tammi Burrell, Marsha Field, Brittany Marietta

Allergy Response Policy

The School posts a food allergy response plan for each child with food allergies in each classroom. Plans are posted on the inside of the closet doors of each

classroom. The plan includes information on food allergens, the child's most probable response, and emergency directions. Each child's allergy response is prescribed by his/her physician. An allergen free table is available in the dining room. Students with food allergies eat at this table. Care is taken to sanitize the allergen table prior to each lunch period. The supervising teacher further evaluates each child's lunch at the allergen table for offending allergens. The Early School and Lower School faculty participate in training every August on administration of the Epinephrine (Epi-pen) and signs of anaphylactic shock.

In general, the School's response to anaphylactic situations is:

- a. Administer Epinephrine (Epi-Pen) if prescribed – through clothing, even jeans
- b. Call 911
- c. Administer dosage of Benadryl if prescribed
- d. Call parent/guardian

Student Illness

A student should remain at home when ill. When the illness is communicable, the student is required to stay home for the safety of the other students. Parents are asked to call the School when the child has a communicable disease. For the well-being of your child and the other students, we recommend that you wait for a period of at least 24 hours before sending your child back to school if they have had fever, swollen glands, sore throat, vomiting, skin irritations, or any other type of serious physical discomfort. As Rivermont does not employ a nurse or maintain an infirmary, parents should be prepared to pick up a child who becomes ill during the school day.

In cases of communicable disease, the advice of your family physician coupled with your prudent judgment and the patient's recovery rate will determine when your child may safely return to school. The School reserves the right to ask for a note from the treating physician certifying that it is safe for the child to return before permitting the student to attend classes.

When a student needs to be excused from physical education for more than two (2) days, a written statement from a physician stating the reason for the excuse and its duration must be presented to the Athletic Director.

The Lower School administrative assistant compiles data weekly on the number of ill students and the nature of illnesses and numbers of students with communicable diseases. This information is reported weekly to the non-public school nurse with the Scott County Health Department. After reporting, this data is kept in the Lower School office. The following reasons for school absence are reported to the Scott County Health Department:

Asthma
Chicken Pox

Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
5th Disease
Fever
Gastroenteritis
Impetigo
Influenza Symptoms
Meningitis, Viral
Mononucleosis
Pediculosis
Pneumonia
Rash
Rheumatic Fever
Ringworm
Scabies
Shingles
Streptococcal
Upper Respiratory

The following reportable diseases are also reported to the Scott County Health Department:

Campylobacter
Cryptosporidium
E. Coli
Encephalitis
Giardia
Hepatitis A, B, and C
Lyme Disease
Measles
Meningitis, Bacterial
Mumps
Pertussis
Rubella
Salmonella
SARS
Shigella
Tuberculosis
West Nile

Children may return to school immediately after being diagnosed with otitis media (ear infection) if they have been fever free and a note is obtained that is signed and dated by the physician. The following guidelines for returning to school are enforced:

1. **Fifth's Disease:** Child may return when no fever is present.
2. **Chicken Pox:** Child may return after all pox are crusted over (5-7 days) and no oozing pox/scabs are present.
3. **Conjunctivitis (pink eye):** Child may return 24 hours after proper medication has been administered from a physician's prescription.

4. **German Measles (Rubella):** Child may return several days after the rash begins and when physician permits.
5. **Giardia, Salmonella, Shigella, Campylobacter:** Child may return when there is no diarrhea and a written note has been obtained from the child's physician verifying two negative stool cultures after treatment.
6. **Mouth:** Child may attend school as long as mouth sores do not cause excessive drooling or fingers/hands to be in mouth.
7. **Head Lice:** Child may return after the first treatment.
8. **Hepatitis A:** Child may return one week after the illness has started, is fever free, and when physician permits.
9. **Herpes Simplex Infections:** Child may return with approval from physician as long as mouth sores do not cause excessive drooling or fingers/hands to be in mouth.
10. **Hib Disease (Haemophilus Influenzae):** Child may return when he/she has completed a four-day course of Rifampin.
11. **Impetigo:** Child may return 24 hours after oral or injectable antibiotics, or 48 hours with antibiotic ointment only.
12. **Measles (Rubeola):** Child may return 4 days after the appearance of the rash and when physician permits.
13. **Meningococcal Disease (Neisseria Meningitides):** Child may return when he/she has completed a 2 day course of Rifampin.
14. **Meningitis (Viral or Bacterial):** Child with bacterial meningitis may return after 24 hours of antibiotics and physician's permission. Child with viral meningitis may return when feeling better and with physician's permission.
15. **MRSA:** Child may return with covered wound as long as the wound does not ooze or escape covering and must be kept covered.
16. **Mumps:** Child may return 9 days after the swelling appears and when physician permits.
17. **Pinworms:** Child may return the day after treatment begins as prescribed by physician.
18. **Pneumonia:** Child may return with physician's permission.
19. **Ringworm:** Child may return the day after treatment begins as prescribed by physician.
20. **Roseola:** Child may return when he/she is fever free.
21. **Rotovirus:** Child may return when diarrhea is gone and he/she is fever free.
22. **Scabies:** Child may return the day after treatment begins as prescribed by physician.
23. **Shingles:** Child may return when all sores are crusted.
24. **Strep Throat / Scarlet Fever:** Child must be on an antibiotic 24 hours and be fever free before returning.
25. **Tuberculosis:** Child diagnosed with active TB disease is excluded from attending school. Child with TB disease may return after beginning treatment and they are not contagious as stated by a physician.
26. **Whooping Cough (Pertussis):** Child may return when doctor permits and at least 5 days of antibiotics have been completed.

A written note from a physician, stating that the child is free of disease, is necessary for the child to return to school if he/she has had a contagious disease. For the following conditions, we ask that parents have the child evaluated by a health care provider:

- Fever, lethargy, irritability, persistent crying, difficulty breathing or other manifestation of possible severe illness

- Diarrhea with blood or mucus in the stool
- E. Coli, shigella, or salmonella infections
- Mouth sores
- Rash with fever or behavioral change
- Purulent conjunctivitis
- Tuberculosis
- Impetigo
- Streptococcal pharyngitis (strep throat)
- Pertussis (whooping cough)

Signs posted at school entrances alert parents to the presence of contagious diseases such as head lice, pink eye, strep throat, or other serious health problems.

Assessment of Student Health

The teacher or classroom aid greets each student upon arrival and assesses his/her general health. If, after assessing a child for signs of apparent illness, the school employee believes the child should not stay for the school day, he/she will contact the parent/guardian and the child will be sent home.

Reporting Student Illness

The Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Headmaster (currently Tammi Burrell) compiles daily attendance data from Early and Lower School teachers, the Administrative Assistant to the Headmaster (currently Brittany Marietta) compiles attendance data from Middle and Upper School teachers. Parents of students reported absent are contacted to determine the nature of the child's illness. Data on the number of ill students and the nature of illness is compiled weekly and numbers of students with communicable diseases are sent every Friday by 12:00 p.m. to the Scott County Health Department. Subsequently, these files are kept at the School for review. Signs are posted at appropriate school entrances to alert parents to head lice, pink eye, strep throat, or other serious health problems.

Contagious Disease Policy for Students

(Adopted by the Board of Trustees January 26, 1989)

We recognize that contagious diseases such as tuberculosis, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), and hepatitis pose significant medical, social, and legal problems. In response to these concerns, the Board of Trustees has adopted the following policy. The policy is consistent with recommendations made by the Center for Disease Control:

- I. The determination of whether a student diagnosed as having a contagious disease is permitted to attend classes or to participate in school activities is made by the Headmaster on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the student's treating physician, the student's

parents/guardians, the student's teachers, and the designated school physician.

- II. In making such determination, the Headmaster considers:
 - a. the recommendation of the individuals identified in Section I,
 - b. the behavior, neurological development, and physical condition of the student,
 - c. the expected type of interaction with others in the school setting, and
 - d. the impact on both the infected student and others in the school setting.
- III. The student will be permitted to remain in a classroom setting unless it is determined that presence poses an immediate threat of danger to the student or others.
- IV. Unless the Headmaster (a) assigns the student to school under restricted conditions or (b) determines that the student is to be provided with an alternative educational setting, the student shall remain in the classroom unconditionally.
- V. A student who has been assigned to a restrictive or alternative setting may request a reconsideration of the assignment, provided such request is accompanied by medical evidence of a change in the student's health status.
- VI. The medical records of students are confidential, except for disclosure mandated by law.
- VII. The number of school personnel who are aware of the student's condition is kept at the minimum needed to assure proper care and to detect situations where the potential for transmission of the disease may increase (e.g. bleeding injury).
- VIII. In view of the concerns related to AIDS, Rivermont has an educational program and plan for making information about AIDS available to students as a part of the health curriculum. The program includes in-service training for teachers, administrators, and non-teaching employees. The School will also provide information about AIDS to family members and the general public. In developing such programs, it is expected that information from sources such as the National Center for Disease Control will be utilized. One of the purposes of the program is to dispel fears based on erroneous or lack of information.

- IX. The School has a Universal Precautions Exposure Control Plan for handling blood and body fluids to protect staff and students.

Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse

Any Rivermont employee who has a reasonable belief that a child under the age of 18 has been abused by a person responsible for the care of the child, as defined by law, should report the suspected abuse to the Headmaster, Assistant Head, and the Department of Human Services at (888) 270-3864 within 24 hours, and follow this verbal report with a written report on appropriate DHS forms. Reports of child abuse remain confidential, as required by law. Rivermont provides training required by law in the identification and reporting of child abuse to all mandatory reporters employed by the School within 6 months of initial employment. The School also provides each new employee who is a mandatory reporter with the legal requirements of child abuse reporting within 1 month of initial employment. Rivermont cooperates fully with DHS in conducting abuse investigations by providing confidential access to the child named in the report and to other children alleged to have relevant information for the purpose of interviews. Rivermont recognizes no obligation to contact the parents/guardians of a child suspected to be a victim of abuse.

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Substance Abuse

Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy

Substance abuse is one of the foremost health issues facing our nation. Statistics verify the fact that experimentation and abuse is taking place at an alarmingly young age. Students and parents should be aware of the following guidelines:

- The use or possession of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco by a Rivermont student will lead to serious disciplinary action. A student involved in the selling or procuring of illegal substances will be dismissed from Rivermont.
- It is a privilege for a student to represent Rivermont in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities and school-sponsored trips. The use or possession of substances (alcohol, tobacco, non-prescription drugs, etc.) or serious forms of inappropriate school behavior will jeopardize an individual's privilege to represent the School.
- It is illegal for adults to serve alcoholic beverages to a minor, and serious legal liability issues arise where this fact is ignored.

Tobacco-Free Policy

Rivermont is a tobacco-free campus. Therefore, parents and visitors are asked to refrain from smoking either inside or outside of the buildings.

Harassment and Discrimination

Policy against Harassment & Bullying

Harassment and bullying of students and employees are against Rivermont policy. The School is committed to providing all students with a safe school environment in which all members of the Rivermont Community are treated with dignity and respect. Bullying and harassment of students by students, school employees, and volunteers will not be tolerated. Rivermont prohibits harassment, bullying, hazing, or any other victimization of students based on any of the following actual or perceived traits or characteristics: age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status. Harassment of employees based upon race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or disability is also prohibited. This policy is in effect while students or employees are on school property, in school-owned or school-operated vehicles, and attending or engaged in school-sponsored activities.

If, after an investigation, a student is found to be in violation of this policy, the student will be disciplined. If, after an investigation, a school employee is found to be in violation of this policy, the Headmaster handles the response.

Harassment and bullying mean any electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or conduct toward a student which is based on any actual or perceived trait or characteristic of the student and which creates an objectively hostile school environment that meets one or more of the following conditions:

- Places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property,
- Has a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health,
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's academic performance, or
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the School.

Electronic bullying means any communication involving the transmission of information by wire, radio, optical cable, electromagnetic, or other similar means. *Electronic* includes but is not limited to communication via e-mail, internet-based communications, pager service, cell phones, electronic text messaging, or similar technologies.

Harassment and bullying may include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors and circumstances:

- Verbal, nonverbal, physical or written harassment, bullying, hazing, or other victimization that have the purpose or effect of causing injury, discomfort, fear, or suffering to the victim,
- Repeated remarks of a demeaning nature that have the purpose or effect of causing injury, discomfort, fear, or suffering to the victim,
- Implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, achievements, property, etc. that have the purpose or effect of causing injury, discomfort, fear, or suffering to the victim,
- Demeaning jokes, stories, or activities directed at the student that have the purpose or effect of causing injury, discomfort, fear, or suffering to the victim, or
- Unreasonable interference with a student's performance or creation of an intimidating, offensive, or hostile learning environment.

Retaliation against any person because they filed a bullying or harassment complaint or assisted or participated in a harassment investigation is prohibited. Retaliators will be disciplined, up to and including suspension and expulsion. Individuals who knowingly file false harassment complaints and any person who gives false statements in an investigation is subject to discipline.

Compliant Procedure

An individual who believes they have been harassed or bullied should notify the Headmaster or Assistant Headmaster.

Investigation Procedure

The investigator (Headmaster or Assistant Headmaster) will reasonably and promptly research the complaint. The Headmaster will interview the complainant and the alleged harasser. The alleged harasser may file a written statement in response to the complaint. The investigator may also interview witnesses as deemed appropriate. Evidence uncovered in the investigation is confidential.

Resolution of the Complaint

Following the investigation, the Headmaster or Assistant Headmaster may identify additional steps, which may include discipline.

Sexual Harassment Policy

Rivermont is an equal opportunity employer with a tradition of dedication, high performance, personal development, and professionalism among faculty and staff. It is expected that no staff member or student will interfere with another person's ability to learn or work. This includes, but is not limited to, inappropriate remarks about or conduct related to a staff member's or student's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, disability, or age. Sexual

harassment, physical abuse, and verbal abuse (which include making professionally damaging statements) will not be tolerated. Behavior prohibited also includes requests to engage in illegal, immoral, or unethical conduct or retaliation for making a complaint. Failure to meet this expectation is grounds for suspension or dismissal. Sexual harassment is a violation of laws against discrimination (state law and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964). Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or education, or
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for decisions affecting that individual's employment or education, or
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with a staff member's or student's performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or learning environment.

Whether sexual conduct violates the law is determined on a case-by-case basis considering the record as a whole and the totality of the circumstances, including the nature of the sexual advances and the context in which the incidents occurred. Sexual harassment is unlawful even when the alleged conduct has caused the individual no economic harm or loss of other tangible benefits. The overriding factor in sexual harassment is that the behavior is uninvited and unwanted. Sexual harassment is not social or courting behavior. It is best seen as an assertion of power.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- Inappropriate personal questions or verbal abuse
- Sexual remarks about a person's clothing, body, or sexual activity
- Suggestive remarks
- Public display of sexually explicit, offensive, or demeaning photographs
- Requiring a person to wear sexually revealing clothing
- Leering or ogling at a person's body
- Unnecessary touching in any form
- Subtle pressure for sexual activity
- Demanding sexual favors, accompanied by promises, hints, or threats concerning one's employment
- Coerced sexual relations
- Physical assault, including rape

Any person who feels he or she is being subjected to sexual harassment or discriminatory behavior of any kind should report the behavior to a Division Director or the Headmaster. Any Division Director who receives a complaint of sexual harassment or discriminatory behavior or who has reason to believe

sexual harassment or discriminatory behavior is occurring should report these concerns to the Headmaster. All complaints of sexual harassment or discriminatory behavior are investigated promptly, fairly, and completely. Each situation will be handled as discreetly as possible. Resolution of complaints can include, but is not necessarily limited to, an apology, transfer, direction to stop the offensive behavior, counseling or training, verbal, or written warning, suspension with or without pay, termination, or expulsion. In the event that offensive behavior reoccurs, it should immediately be reported to a Division Director or the Head of School.

This policy applies to each and every employee and student at Rivermont, including administration and the Board of Trustees. No retaliation or intimidation directed toward anyone who makes a complaint will be tolerated.

Policy of Non-Discrimination

The School shall admit students of any race, color, religion, gender, age, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities accorded or made available to students at the School. It shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Adopted June 23, 1994.

Sanitation Policies

Universal Precautions Exposure Control Plan

Rivermont provides the necessary equipment and procedures to protect staff and students from contact and/or exposure to blood, bodily fluids, or other potentially infectious materials as a result of performing first aid. Universal Precautions is the practice of assuming that all bodily fluids that a staff member and/or student is exposed to are infectious. Faculty and staff complete annual Universal Precautions procedure training including information on blood borne pathogens and their transmission and the use, location, decontamination, and disposal of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment).

Procedures

1. Treat all situations involving potential contact with blood, body fluids, or medical waste with caution. Staff members wear protective gloves during first aid response or when the possibility of encountering bodily fluids is likely. Gloves are changed as soon as practical when contaminated or torn.
2. In the event of a spill or vomit that requires clean up, the teacher or nearest employee shall sprinkle the area with Voban.
3. Employee shall then inform an administrative assistant, who will contact the maintenance department for a thorough clean up.

4. Maintenance employee cleaning the area shall wear gloves and apply a clean up kit, then place residue in a sealed garbage bag.
5. Maintenance employee shall wash thoroughly with disinfectant soap.

Exposure

In the event of an exposure to bodily fluids such as a splash or spray to eyes, nose, mouth, or broken skin, the staff member or student should immediately cleanse the exposed skin with soap and water, or flush contaminated mucous membranes or eyes with water. A report of exposure should be given to the Business Office.

Handwashing Policy

All staff, volunteers, and students should follow hand washing procedure at the following times:

1. Upon arrival for the day or when moving from one classroom to another
2. Before and after eating, handling food, or feeding a child
3. Before and after giving medication
4. Before and after playing in water
5. After toileting or helping a child use a toilet
6. After handling bodily fluid (mucus, blood, vomit) from sneezing, sipping and blowing noses, from mouths, or from sores
7. After handling uncooked food, especially raw meat and poultry
8. After handling pets and other animals
9. After playing in sandboxes
10. After cleaning or handling the garbage

Students and staff members shall wash their hands using the following method:

1. Check to be sure a clean, disposable paper towel is available.
2. Turn on water to a comfortable temperature no less than 60 degrees and no more than 120 degrees F.
3. Moisten hands with water and apply liquid soap to hands.
4. Rub hands together vigorously until a soapy lather appears, and continue for at least 10 seconds. Rub between fingers, around nail beds, under fingernails, jewelry, and back of hands.
5. Rinse hands under running water, no less than 60 degrees and no more than 120 degrees F, until they are free of soap and dirt. Leave the water running while drying hands.
6. Dry hands with clean, disposable paper towel.
7. Turn off the water with the paper towel.
8. Throw the disposable paper towel into a lined trash container.

Cleaning and Sanitizing Food Surfaces

All surfaces that come in contact with food, including tables and countertops, as well as floors and shelving in the food preparation area, are kept in good repair, free of cracks or crevices, and are made of smooth, nonporous material that is

kept clean and sanitized. All kitchen equipment is maintained in operable condition according to the manufacturer's guidelines for maintenance and operation. The School maintains an inventory of food service equipment that includes date of purchase, warranty date, and a history of repairs.

Structural Safety

ADA Compliance

Rivermont has two ADA compliant entrances with parking conveniently located adjacent to each. The northeast entrance of Becherer Hall adjacent to the Early School is ADA compatible. A wheel chair may proceed up the sidewalk and enter at the NE entrance with zero grade, proceed through the double doors, and into the Early School classroom hall. The second ADA compatible entrance is the second floor entrance to Becherer Hall adjacent to the Mansion, which provides convenient access to Central Hall, the auditorium, cafeteria, and Lower and Early School classrooms. Access to offices and classrooms in the Mansion is available through the gymnasium to the Mansion elevator.

Asbestos Management Plan

In compliance with State and Federal legislation requiring that all public and non-public schools inspect and report asbestos-containing materials, Rivermont has a plan for regular inspection of suspected materials. A copy of the plan is available on school days from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in the Business Office.

Radon Testing

Radon tests are conducted every two years and must show concentrations less than 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) of air.

Pesticide Management Policy

Pests such as cockroaches, fleas, fire ants, stinging wasps, termites, and rodents can disrupt the learning environment. Rivermont uses the least intrusive method of pest control to prevent unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage, while providing the safest environment for students and employees.

Procedures

1. A licensed exterminator provides monthly applications to prevent infestation.
2. Employees should report evidence of pest infestation to the maintenance department.
3. Baited traps are set after students leave the building to catch mice. Traps are checked the following morning and removed before students arrive.
4. The maintenance department informs Division Heads of routine pest control applications.
5. The School seeks to reduce student and faculty exposure to pesticides. Pest control treatments are done after school hours when few students are on

- campus.
6. When it is necessary to use a pesticide, the least hazardous pesticide is chosen. Application is done according to label directions and never during regular school hours when students are present.
 7. Employees, students, or parents may contact the Division Head to review pesticide information including:
 - a. Product's common or trade name
 - b. Name of the active ingredient
 - c. EPA registration number
 - d. Pest(s) to be controlled
 - e. Specific location(s) where the pesticide is applied
 - f. Date of application

DIVISION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Early School - PreSchool and Junior Kindergarten

Rivermont Collegiate Early School

Two-Day PreSchool – Two mornings designed for three-year-olds; meets Tuesday and Thursday from 8:20 until 11:30 a.m.

Three-Day PreSchool – Three mornings designed for three-year-olds; meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:20 until 11:30 a.m.

Junior Kindergarten – A five-morning program designed for the four and five year old child who will attend Kindergarten the following fall; meets from 8:20 until 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday.

Afternoon Adventures – An engaging learning experience designed for the PreSchool and Junior Kindergarten student, focusing on a wide range of activities that promote social and academic learning; meets 12:30-3:15 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Early School Hours

Early Bird Day Care	7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.
Morning Classes	8:20 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Lunch Hour	11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Afternoon Adventures	12:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Day Care	3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Arrival - Children in Early School should arrive between 8:15 and 8:20 a.m. unless they are enrolled in Early Bird Day Care. Following an initial transition period, parents of Junior Kindergarten students may allow their children to walk

into the building unescorted. Parents escorting a child into the classroom must park in the designated parking spaces at the east side (rear) of Becherer Hall. The circle drive in front of Becherer Hall must remain clear.

Departure - Morning PreSchool and Junior Kindergarten students and teachers wait for parents at 11:30 a.m. dismissal at the east entrance of Becherer Hall. Teachers put each child in the car, so there is no need for drivers to leave their vehicles. Afternoon Adventures dismisses at 3:15 p.m. Parents are asked to remain in the car in the pick up area. Drivers needing to leave a vehicle are asked to use the designated parking spaces.

Day Care - Early Bird Day Care is available to children who arrive before 8:20 a.m. It begins at 7:30 a.m. Parents may sign up on a yearly basis or as needed.

Supervised lunch is available for those students who are not picked up by 11:30 a.m. A hot lunch is served Monday through Friday. Parents who want to have their child eat lunch occasionally on a drop-in basis must notify the teacher at arrival so that meals can be ordered. Rivermont prefers that Early School students eat the lunch provided and refrain from bringing in a sack lunch. Late charges will apply after 12:30 p.m. for students who are not registered in Afternoon Adventures.

After School Day Care - 3:30 until 6:00 p.m. Students who are not picked up by 3:30 p.m. will be sent to After School Day Care. Students will have the opportunity to participate in scheduled daily activities, snack time, recess, and homework help during After School Day Care. Additional fees will be assessed for students who remain after 6:00 p.m.

Parents initial the sign-in sheet in the classroom prior to leaving with their child. No student may go home with a carpool or individual other than his or her assigned driver without written parental permission. To ensure the safety of our students, teachers keep a record of the names, addresses, and phone numbers of persons authorized to pick up each student. Anyone picking up a student, other than a parent, must show proper identification, such as a driver's license, before the student is released. If persons authorized to pickup a student changes, parents must update the section on the Health Information / Emergency Care in Parental Absence form.

Early School Code of Ethics

In making decisions that affect students, families, and colleagues, Early School faculty and staff commit themselves to:

- Respect the dignity, worth, and uniqueness of each individual (child, family, culture, community and society).
- Help children and adults achieve their full potential in the context of relationships that are based on trust, respect, and positive regard.

- Appreciate childhood as a unique and valuable stage of the human life cycle.
- Base work with children on knowledge of child development.
- Appreciate and support the close ties between child and family.
- Recognize that children are best understood and supported through the context of family, culture, community, and society.

Early School Student Assessment Plan

The Rivermont assessment of skills includes a checklist of academic and social/emotional development. Early School students are evaluated in September and March. Individual learning goals are developed and an intervention plan for remediation is created, if necessary. A child completes tasks in several areas: large muscle skills, small muscle skills, cognitive thinking, expressive language skills, social/emotional, and self-help skills. The teacher notes progress from first person observations. Results are shared with parents at fall and spring conference days. Written reports describing student progress are sent to parents in December and June.

If teacher or parent observations indicate areas of concern, the Division Director is consulted and referrals may be made to Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency Early Childhood Developmental specialists. This Early Childhood Center provides a wide variety of developmental assessments for students ages 3-5.

Results of the Early School assessments are kept in the child's cumulative folder. Access to these files is limited to the child's teacher and the Division Director. After the Junior Kindergarten year, the cumulative folder is included in a child's cumulative (K-12) education record. In addition, teachers collect a portfolio of student work and anecdotal documentation of a child's comments, interests, play and work behaviors, and relationships to determine developmental progress. Within the first month of school, learning goals for each child are recorded and used in developing curriculum content. Learning goals are shared with parents/guardians at the fall conference.

The Early School Director uses the Gesell Institute Developmental Assessment in determining Kindergarten readiness of students not currently enrolled in Early School who seek acceptance to Kindergarten.

Early School Discipline Policy

Discipline in Early School is a learning process. Young children may not understand the ramifications of many of their behaviors and are encouraged to make good choices and to be prevented from harming themselves or others. This can best be accomplished through close supervision, gentle guidance, and most importantly, redirection.

Teachers provide an atmosphere in the classroom that prevents potential problems and are actively involved with students - walking around and working with small groups on the floor or at tables. When a problem does arise, it can often be solved by a teacher appearing on the scene. Handholding or a hug can quickly dissolve an angry temper.

Young children are learning the concept of sharing and taking turns. Rivermont teachers lend guidance through redirection to other activities when conflict occurs. Teachers help students identify and express feelings by modeling phrasing that verbalizes feelings. I feel _____ when you do _____ and I want you to _____. In this way, teachers hope to prevent one child from hurting another and help students learn to verbalize needs and desires. Teachers model conflict resolution when youngsters are involved in a disagreement. Each child expresses his/her feelings and describes the event and the teacher facilitates understanding.

Occasionally, children tantrum or behave in a manner that is harmful to others. In this instance, time away from the activity is required. A teacher will sit with the child in an area of the room apart from the activity. As the child relaxes, the teacher begins talking through the situation. Usually after a period of 2-3 minutes, the child is ready to rejoin the activity. At that time, he/she is asked if they are ready to follow the rules and join the group. If inappropriate behavior continues and none of these actions are effective, the parent/guardian is consulted and a plan of action is agreed upon. With older children, the emphasis shifts toward teaching how to solve their own problems and conflict resolution.

Discipline Strategies Used by Rivermont Collegiate Faculty and Staff

- * Maintain realistic expectations of children.
- * Provide clear and simple limits.
- * Plan an environment that facilitates a caring atmosphere.
- * Keep children busy to prevent problems from occurring in the first place.
- * Model appropriate behaviors.
- * Redirect inappropriate behaviors toward desired outcomes.
- * Encourage children to work together to solve problems.
- * Encourage children to use their words to solve problems or to elicit peer cooperation.
- * Provide logical and natural consequences for children's actions.
- * Remove children from the situation until they are able to discuss the problem and calm down.
- * Conflict resolution (for older preschoolers and school-age children).

Biting Policy

Biting is a natural developmental stage. It is usually a temporary condition most common between 13 and 24 months of age. Toddlers bite other toddlers for a variety of reasons, including being overly tired or frustrated. Rivermont faculty

and staff encourage children to use their words when angry or frustrated and maintain close supervision of students at all times. The safety of all students at Rivermont is most important. For this reason, a student will be asked to withdraw from Rivermont at the third incident of biting.

The following steps will be taken if a biting incident occurs:

- Faculty and/or staff present keep feelings in check.
- Biting is interrupted with a firm “No. We don’t bite people.”
- The biter is removed from the area and the bitten student is comforted.
- The wound of the bitten student is assessed and cleansed with soap and water.
- The Director interviews faculty and/or staff to determine the adequacy of supervision and the context and environment in which the biting occurred.
- If it is determined that there was blood exposure, further steps need to be taken, as outlined below.
- The parents of both students are notified of the incident.
- A written incident report is completed.
- Confidentiality of all children involved is maintained.
- The bitten area is continually observed for signs of infection.

Biting incident involving blood exposure:

An exposure is defined as contact with blood or bodily fluids to which Universal Precautions apply. A human bite will rarely transmit a bacterial infection if proper first aid is given. Hepatitis B and HIV can potentially be transmitted during a human bite if the skin is broken and a blood exchange occurs.

When a bite or injury involves a break in the skin and potential blood exposure, the following guidelines are followed:

- Assess the bitten area and clean with soap and water.
- Check immunization records of both students and determine if they are up to date on tetanus (DtaP) and Hepatitis B vaccines.
- Notify parents of both students immediately.
- File an incident report as outlined in the Rivermont Personnel Handbook.
- Notify the School’s licensing consultant by phone.
- Both children (and parties involved) should be tested for Hepatitis B and HIV by their private physicians or the Scott County Health Department.
- If a parent refuses to have their child tested, the Director shall contact the Child Care Nurse consultant at the Scott County Health Department so an investigation can be initiated.
- If both sets of parents agree to have their child tested, the Director will call each child’s pediatrician with the following information:
 - Child’s name and DOB
 - Description of the incident
 - The other physician’s contact information
 - The other child’s name and DOB
- The Director will be a liaison between the parents and physicians in order to ensure confidentiality.
- If one of the children tests positive for Hepatitis B or HIV, the child’s physician will contact the health department.

Parent Access

Parents are their child's first teachers and are encouraged to take an active role. Parents are asked to contact their child's teacher if they want to join in a planned activity or field trip. Parents are always welcome to visit classrooms, however, the teacher is not always able to interrupt the schedule to greet you; classroom activities must continue. Frequent parental visits may disrupt the learning environment, as adults in the classroom can divert attention away from learning activities. Parent visits will not interrupt instruction if they avoid taking the teacher's time to discuss programs and activities while the children are in the classroom. Parents with questions may make an appointment for a later day if they wish to discuss their observations.

Unrestricted access means that a person has contact with a child alone or is directly responsible for child care. Any person on campus at Rivermont who is not a staff member, substitute, or volunteer (who has completed a record check and approval to be involved with child care) shall not have unrestricted access to students for whom that person is not the parent, guardian, or custodian. All visitors must sign in at the reception desk in either Becherer Hall or the Mansion and wear a visitor badge. It is the responsibility of the classroom teacher to supervise all visitors to the classroom and to ensure that any visitor who does not have a background and fingerprinting check is not supervising students. The Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds is responsible for supervising any maintenance and repair worker on campus.

A sex offender who is required to register with the Iowa sex offender registry shall not be on the Rivermont campus without written permission of the Headmaster and/or Assistant Headmaster, except for time reasonably necessary to transport the offender's own child to and from the School. This written permission shall include the location in the School where the sex offender may be and the reason for the sex offender's presence on campus. The permission shall also state the duration of the sex offender's presence. A convicted sex offender shall not be employed or act as a volunteer at Rivermont.

If parent/guardian contact is prohibited by any custody or restraining order, the custodial parent/guardian must provide a copy of the applicable court order to be included in the student's confidential cumulative folder. Access to this information will be limited to those faculty/staff members who are present at pick-up and/or control access to the student.

In the event that an intoxicated parent or caregiver arrives on campus to pick up a student, Rivermont faculty are advised to be cautious about discharging the child, particularly when the parent or caregiver intends to drive the child home. The teacher in charge will suggest an alternative arrangement, such as asking another parent or caregiver to accompany the child home. If a parent insists on driving a vehicle with the child, the teacher should allow the child to leave. If

the intoxicated person is a caregiver, not related to the child, the teacher shall not release the child to the driver. The Division Head will contact the parent and explain the situation. Each incident will be considered taking into account the circumstances of the individual and the parents. Police and other appropriate agencies will be informed if an intoxicated parent/guardian leaves with a child.

Parent Requests for a Specific Teacher

Rivermont seeks to create classrooms with an equal number of boys and girls, with a range of ability levels, and balanced ethnicity. In making placement decisions, the School considers the needs of each child and the ways he/she relates to classmates and various teaching styles. In order to provide the best education for all students, it is not possible to honor parent requests for a specific teacher.

Pick-up Authorization

Occasionally, it may be necessary for someone other than a parent to pick up a student. Each parent must provide written notification to the child's teacher if there is a change in driver. No child will be released to anyone who is not authorized to pick up the student. As noted above, if parent/guardian contact is prohibited by any custody or restraining order, the custodial parent/guardian must provide a copy of the applicable court order to be included in the student's confidential cumulative folder. Additionally, faculty are advised to exercise caution in discharging a student to a parent or caregiver who appears to be intoxicated. Please see the above "Parent Access" section for complete details.

Communication

Early School teachers are in daily contact with parents at arrival and dismissal. When daily contact is not possible, but necessary, teachers will write a short note and place it in the child's backpack or contact the parent/guardian. Parents/guardians receive a written student evaluation twice yearly in December and June and attend formal parent conferences twice yearly in fall and spring.

Field Trips

Junior Kindergarten and PreSchool students take at least one field trip each month. Parents who do not wish to have their child participate must make alternative childcare arrangements on the day of the field trip. Parents may volunteer to accompany any trip and supervise a small group of students by signing the posted sign-up sheets on the classroom door. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to be involved in their child's education. Students must dress appropriately for the weather. Field trips are frequently outside in cold, hot, muddy, and windy conditions.

When children are transported in a vehicle other than a school bus, a child is transported only if fastened in an approved developmentally appropriate safety seat, seat belt, or harness appropriate to the child's weight and the restraint is

installed and used in accordance with the manufacturers' instruction. Each child has an individual seat belt and is positioned in the vehicle in accordance with the requirements for safe use of air bags in the back seat. A child under the age of 4 is transported only if securely fastened in a developmentally appropriate child passenger restraint system that meets federal motor vehicle safety standards. If small buses or vans have safety restraints installed, children weighing over 40 pounds have access to belt positioning booster seats with lap and shoulder belts. Children weighing less than 40 pounds use car safety seats.

Early School Transportation Policy

It is the policy of Rivermont to transport Early School children on field trips in a regulation 20-passenger school bus. Current research indicates that children are safer on a school bus than in motor vehicles of any other type. The Rivermont school bus provides protection because of its size and weight. Further, the vehicle meets Federal motor vehicle safety standards (FMVSSs) mandating compartmentalized seating, improved emergency exits, stronger roof structures and fuel systems, and better bus body joint strength.

Early School Meal Protocol

1. Rivermont serves each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal or snack as defined by the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).
2. Children who are cared for more than 2 hours a day must receive a meal or snack every two or three hours.
3. Menus are planned at least one month in advance, made available to parents, and kept on file at the School.
4. A parent may provide food from home for a child's lunch. The staff may evaluate the food according to CACFP standards and add any missing nutrients.
5. Food from home shall be refrigerated to avoid spoilage.
6. Snacks that do not meet CACFP guidelines may be brought to celebrate a child's birthday or holiday.
7. Staff serving food shall have clean hands or wear protective gloves.
8. Vegetables and dishes without meat are cooked to 120 degrees. Dishes with meat or dairy are cooked from 140-165 degrees depending on the type of meat.
9. Children younger than four shall not be served foods that are round, hard, small, thick and/or sticky.
No hotdogs, raw carrot, hard pretzels, chips, peanuts, popcorn, marshmallows, or chunks of meat larger than can be swallowed will be served to students younger than 4.
10. After washing hands, Early School teachers escort youngsters to the dining room at 11:50 A.M.
11. Students sit with escorting teachers at pre-designated tables.
12. Lunch is served family style at the table.
13. Teachers record a description of child's lunch to share with parents.

14. After everyone is finished eating, students and teachers clear the table and wash hands.

Snacks

Early School students provide a nutritious snack for the class on their designated snack day. Parents receive a monthly calendar indicating their child's snack day. Please send enough for each child and the teachers in the classroom. Rivermont will provide milk, napkins, and cups. Special emphasis is placed on healthy, nutritious food. Foods that contain large amounts of sugar and artificial coloring or food substitutes should be avoided. Each child celebrating a birthday or half birthday may bring a party snack for a treat on his or her special day. **For the safety of all the children, parents are asked to refrain from sharing any foods containing peanuts, any tree nuts, or nut products.** Occasionally, a parent may forget to send a snack. Emergency supplies are available, but we ask you to send a replacement to be kept as a shelf snack. It should be sealed and have a shelf life of several months.

Oral Health

Rivermont seeks to promote oral health among its students by encouraging all students in Preschool and Junior Kindergarten to have a dental exam by a dentist prior to admission to the School. Parents provide the School with proof of dental exam and name and address of the dentist. Students are offered an opportunity to rinse their mouth after snack and lunch. Students also participate in a dental health education unit that includes dental care, healthy eating, and dental visits. Rivermont invites a dentist and/or his/her assistant to present a dental health program every February.

Clothing

Parents are asked to clothe their child simply so that he/she can dress and toilet easily and feel comfortable in all activities such as painting, water play, and outdoor play. Parents shall provide a change of clothes including pants, shirt, socks, and underwear in the event of accidents or spills. Each item should be marked with the child's name and placed in a Ziploc bag. Children play outside daily, weather permitting. Each child should bring weather appropriate outerwear including coats, boots, hats, gloves, and snow pants during the winter season.

Labeling Personal Items

All articles of clothing or other personal items that your child brings to school should be clearly labeled with his/her first and last name.

First Aid Kits

First Aid kits are located in each Early School classroom, PreSchool and both Junior Kindergarten rooms, in the Early School entry to the playground, in the Division Director's office (Mrs. Johnson – Becherer Hall), in the AED cabinet

in Central Hall, and in Ms. Campbell's office in the Mansion. First aid kits are taken by the teacher when students play outside or leave campus.

Kits contain the following:

- Bandage – flexible roll type
- Sterile gauze pads in various sizes
- Bandages / Band-Aids in various sizes
- Cold packs
- Emergency medication for students with special needs
- Eye patch pads
- First aid chart or booklet
- Disposable nonporous gloves
- Hand sanitizer
- Mobile telephone / reliable communication method
- Mouthpiece for rescue breathing / CPR
- Notepad and pen for notes
- Parent /guardian contact information for each student
- Plastic bags for soiled clothes and/or first aid waste
- Safety pins
- Small scissors
- Splints finger
- Tape bandage
- Telephone numbers for Poison Center and EMS
- Thermometer – non-glass
- Triangular bandages
- Tweezers
- Water to clean wound

Supplies

A list of supplies needed for PS-5th grade can be found on the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org), under the “Parents” tab. This list is updated each year.

Calendar

A monthly calendar is included in the school newsletter sent home weekly with each child. Most field trips, early dismissals, and special programs will be noted on the calendar along with notice of all-school functions.

Lost and Found

A lost and found cabinet is located adjacent to the Lower School office in Becherer Hall. Parents may check the cabinet to find lost items.

Classroom Pets

Pets permitted in the classroom include fish, gerbils, and hamsters. Rodents are kept in a glass aquarium with appropriate bedding and a screen lid fastened to the top. Dogs, cats, and rabbits are not permitted.

Toys

Students may not bring toys to school. Toys from home can be easily misplaced or broken. Items that add to the educational experience and pertain to the current classroom topic are acceptable such as books, records, rocks, interesting shells, etc.

Sanitation of Toys

Toys such as play food, Legos, blocks, puzzles, and all items handled by students are sanitized weekly. Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized are not permitted in classrooms. Toys that children have placed in their mouths or that are otherwise contaminated by body secretion or excretion are set aside where children cannot access them until these toys are washed with water and detergent, rinsed, sanitized, and air-dried. Teachers closely supervise play with plastic or play foods to prevent shared mouthing of these toys. Machine washable cloth toys are used by one individual only until these toys are laundered.

Classroom Sanitation

1. Upon arrival to the classroom daily, a staff member prepares bleach solution and soapy water solution in separate spray bottles:
 - a. Mix a solution of 1 quart water with 2 tablespoons chlorine bleach in a spray bottle.
 - b. Mix a solution of 1 quart water with two drops dish soap in a spray bottle.
2. Clean tables by following this procedure:
 - a. Spray table generously with soapy solution. Wipe dry with paper towel.
 - b. Fully saturate table with bleach solution. Let set 2 full minutes. Wipe dry with clean paper towel.
3. Tables and countertops must be sanitized at the start of the school day, after crafts and table work, and before and after snacks or food service.
4. Tables and countertops must be sanitized after contamination with bodily fluids or when soiled.
5. Toilets and bathroom countertops are cleaned daily. If soiled during the day, however, teachers will need to sanitize.

Supervision Policy

Teachers directly supervise children by sight and hearing at all times, even when children are in sleeping areas. Teachers regularly count children when leaving

one area and arriving at another. Staff ratios are met during all hours of operation including indoor and outdoor play and field trips:

PreSchool: one staff member to every 8 children

Junior Kindergarten: one staff member to every 10 children

During nap time, at least one staff is present in the napping room. Staff ratio requirements may be reduced to one staff per room when children are resting for a period of time not to exceed one hour, provided staff ratio coverage can be maintained. Staff periodically scans the classroom or outdoor area to confirm the safety of the students. PreSchool and Junior Kindergarten students may use toilet facilities without direct supervision. Staff supervise by hearing any student in the restroom and reminding the child to wash his/her hands upon reentry to the classroom.

Educational Qualifications

Director of Early School

- Must have at least a baccalaureate degree in Elementary or Early Childhood Education.
- Have a minimum of 9 credit hours of college level course work in administration, leadership, and/or management (which can be in school administration, business management, communication, technology, early childhood management, or some combination of these areas).
- Have a minimum of 24 credit hours of college level course work in early childhood education, child development, elementary education, or early childhood special education. These hours must encompass child development and learning from birth through kindergarten, family and community relationships, the practices of observing, documenting, and assessing young children, teaching and learning processes, and/or professional practices and development.

Early School Teacher

- Must have at least a baccalaureate degree in Early Childhood Education or hold a baccalaureate degree in Elementary Education with documentation of 6 credits in child development or early childhood related courses.
- Hold a current state of Iowa teaching certificate and show proof of folder number.

Teacher Aide

- Must be a high school graduate and at least 18 years of age.
- Have an associate degree in Early Childhood, hold a CDA in Early Childhood, or have reasonable experience in Early Childhood Education.

Senior Paraeducator

- Must be a high school graduate and at least 18 years of age.
- Have earned an associate degree in Early Childhood Education, hold a CDA in Early Childhood Education, or possess significant experience in Early Childhood Education.

Program Improvement Plan

Rivermont seeks to provide an Early School program with an atmosphere of continuous improvement. In the spring of each year, teachers and classroom aides complete a self-evaluation and meet with the Division Director to write individual professional development goals. The administration seeks input from parents and teachers through a confidential satisfaction survey sent to families each semester. The information gathered is used to develop a comprehensive improvement plan for the upcoming school year. Parents are encouraged to share any concerns or ideas with the administration at any time and should not feel the need to wait for a formal survey.

Lower School – Kindergarten through Grade 5

The School Day

The Lower School Day begins at 8:20 a.m. with Morning Meeting in the Becherer Hall Auditorium. Students arriving late must check in with the Administrative Assistant before attending Morning Meeting or class. Students arriving early, between 8:00 and 8:20, must report to the Media Center. The Lower School Day ends at 3:30 p.m. All students whose rides are late should report to the Day Care room. No student is permitted to remain on campus without the direct supervision of an adult.

Classroom teachers are responsible for instruction in reading, language arts, social studies, mathematics, and health (K-4). Single discipline teachers instruct in art, music, physical education, foreign language, science, media and technology.

Lower School Assessment

Students in Grades 4-12 are issued a quarterly report card with grades and comments for all classes in which the student was enrolled that quarter. Letter grades are given for all academic courses using a traditional A through F scale, with pluses and minuses assigned at the discretion of the classroom teacher. (Rivermont does not use the grade A+.)

For students in Grades K-3, a report card is issued evaluating the student in areas such as reading, mathematics, spelling, social studies, language arts, foreign language, handwriting, science/health, music, art, physical education, and study habits using the grading scale shown below.

H High Achievement
S Satisfactory Achievement
N Needs to Improve

Homework

Daily homework is an important aspect of learning. Young learners need time to reflect on concepts presented in the day's lessons and to build skills. Students complete homework independently, except for a request to have a parent double-check an assignment. Rivermont seeks to develop self-motivated, well-organized, independent workers. In addition, undue parent involvement in a student's assignment makes it difficult to gauge the student's academic progress, strengths, and needs. If a student is experiencing difficulty with the workload, it is important for parents to notify the teacher so that modifications can be made to suit the needs of the student. Education is a partnership between parents and teachers, who work together to achieve the best possible balance between homework and student capacity.

On average, the typical homework times for a student in each grade are:

Grades 1 & 2:	20 minutes
Grade 3:	40 minutes
Grades 4 & 5:	60 to 90 minutes

Out of respect for the multi-cultural nature of our society and of Rivermont in particular, special attention is paid to avoid scheduling assessments and major projects or assignments for all students on major religious holidays. Although it is not possible, practical, or even desirable to refrain from instruction on such dates, assignments and major projects may place an undue burden on students and their families. This courtesy is also in effect when a school sponsored event, such as Back-to-School Night, requires parent attendance and homework/study might be difficult to supervise.

Academic Fair

Each student in Grades 2-11 is required to complete an academic fair project. There are three parts to each project: a research paper, three sided display board, and oral presentation. Project subjects are determined by grade.

Lost and Found

A lost and found cabinet is located adjacent to the Lower School office in Becherer Hall. Parents may check the cabinet to find lost items.

Supplies

A list of supplies needed for PS-5th grade can be found on the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org), under the "Parents" tab. This list is updated each year.

Parent Access and Pick-up Authorization

Parents are asked to contact their child's teacher if they want to join in a planned activity or field trip. Parents are always welcome to visit classrooms, however, the teacher is not always able to interrupt the schedule to greet you; classroom activities must continue. Frequent parental visits may disrupt the learning environment, as adults in the classroom can divert attention away from learning. Parent visits will not interrupt instruction if they avoid taking the teacher's time to discuss programs and activities while the children are in the classroom. Parents with questions may make an appointment for a later day if they wish to discuss their observations. Parents may schedule a classroom observation by contacting Director of Early & Lower School.

Unrestricted access means that a person has contact with a child alone or is directly responsible for child care. Any person on campus at Rivermont who is not a staff member, substitute, or volunteer (who has completed a record check and approval to be involved with child care) shall not have unrestricted access to students for whom that person is not the parent, guardian, or custodian. If parent/guardian contact is prohibited by any custody or restraining order, the custodial parent/guardian must provide a copy of the applicable court order to be included in the student's confidential cumulative folder. A sex offender who is required to register with the Iowa sex offender registry shall not be on the Rivermont campus without written permission of the Headmaster and/or Assistant Headmaster, except for time reasonably necessary to transport the offender's own child to and from the School. Occasionally, it may be necessary for someone other than a parent to pick up a student. Each parent must provide written notification to the child's teacher if there is a change in driver. No child will be released to anyone who is not authorized to pick up the student. In the event that an intoxicated parent or caregiver arrives on campus to pick up a student, Rivermont faculty are advised to be cautious about discharging the child. Please see the "Parent Access" section under Early School in this handbook for complete details regarding Rivermont's parent access and pick-up policy.

Middle & Upper Schools – Grades 6 through 12

The School Day

The Middle and Upper School Day begins at 8:20 a.m. with a Morning Meeting in the Mansion Reading Room. Students arriving late must check in with the Administrative Assistant before attending Morning Meeting or class. Students who arrive before 7:45 a.m. are to wait in Central Hall. At 7:45, they may proceed to the Mansion. After school, students who have not been picked up must be in Homework Club. No student is to remain on campus without the direct supervision of an adult. Homework Club is supervised homework and study, led by a faculty member, with attention and focus on organization and subject-specific topics. The program runs from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Students

remaining after 5:30 p.m. will report to Day Care. Please consult the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org) for current prices for these programs.

Course Load

All students in the Middle School follow an established curriculum of: English, science, math, social studies, foreign language, fine and performing arts, health, and physical education. Modifications to this curriculum must be approved by the Headmaster.

In the Upper School, students normally carry a course load of six credits per semester in addition to physical education. Students must be enrolled in a minimum of five academic classes to be considered in Good Standing and a full-time student. Seniors are required to be scheduled for five credits each semester. It is important for students and parents to note that these requirements are the minimum and most selective colleges expect more. Although Rivermont awards credit for classes where a D is earned, it must be noted that many colleges do not accept coursework at the D level to meet their entrance requirements. However, earning a D in a sequential program could jeopardize the student's progress to the next course in the sequence. Students interested in pursuing an Honors Diploma and/or who are considering selective colleges or programs need to consider carrying a heavier load.

Diploma

To receive a Rivermont diploma, a student must have attended four years in the Upper School or accredited high school, completed the Junior Service Project, and the Senior Project. Additionally, graduating seniors must be accepted to a four year college or university. The following coursework is required:

English	5 credits
- American Literature	
- World Literature	
- Exposition & Research	
Speech	1
Math	3
Science	3
- Conceptual Physics	
- Biology	
Social Studies	3
- U.S. History	
- World History	
- Government	
- Recent U.S. History	
Foreign Language	3
Computer	1
Performing & Fine Arts	2

Electives	3
Health	1 course
Physical Education	3 years (or equivalent)
<u>TOTAL CREDITS</u>	<u>24</u>

To receive an **Honors Diploma**, a student must complete the following additional requirements:

- All requirements for a regular diploma
- Earn a cumulative GPA of 3.33 or higher
- Additional credit in: Math, Science, Social Studies
- Performing & Fine Arts credits must include two disciplines
- Completion of Foreign Language through Conversation & Composition
- **Total credits = 27**

Senior Project

Each senior, in order to graduate from Rivermont, is required to complete a senior project. Programs like this are common at independent schools around the country. There are four parts to the project: a research paper, the two-week project or internship itself, a journal documenting the project, and a presentation to the faculty.

Junior Project

In conjunction with Academic Fair in February, each junior is required to complete a service project of their own design. Working with a faculty advisor, each student plans and implements a volunteer project requiring fifteen hours of community service.

Academic Fair

The Academic Fair is the culmination of months of research and preparation. All Middle and Upper School students, through Grade 11, prepare research-based projects in a number of different academic areas. Students are required to prepare a written, oral, and visual presentation of their research. Judges meet with students and review their work. In the evening, everyone, (students, parents, and faculty) gathers to view projects, hear presentations, and learn the results of those projects entered in competition.

Drop/Add Policy

A student in Grades 6-12 may drop or add a course with the approval of his or her teacher, parent/guardian, and Division Director. Full year courses may not be dropped or added after the second week of the first semester. Semester classes may be added or dropped within the first two weeks of the given semester.

Homework & Testing

Assignments not completed within a reasonable time, as determined by the classroom teacher, will receive no credit. Any test missed because of an absence must also be completed within a reasonable amount of time. Out of respect for the multi-cultural nature of our society and of Rivermont in particular, special attention is paid to avoid scheduling assessments and major projects or assignments for all students on major religious holidays. Although it is not possible, practical, or even desirable to refrain from instruction on such dates, it may place an undue burden on students and their families. All high school level academic classes are required to have a final exam at the end of each semester. These exams may not be take-home exams or term papers.

Honor Rolls

Rivermont publishes an Honor Roll at the end of each academic quarter. For Grades 9-12, the Honor Roll consists of three levels: Headmaster's List (grade point average of 3.85 or higher), High Honors (3.5-3.84), and Honors (3.00-3.49). The Honor Roll for Grades 6-8 consists of two levels: High Honors (no grades below B+) and Honors (no grades below B-).

Tutoring & Study Halls

All students in Grades 6-12, except those qualifying for Open Study (as defined below), are assigned to supervised study halls when they are not in class. The study hall supervisor maintains a quiet atmosphere and students are expected to read or study without disrupting others. With a note from his or her classroom teacher, a student may be excused to work with a teacher or go to the library or computer lab. When the student is finished, he or she must report back to the study hall supervisor.

Open Study

Students in Grades 9-12 who earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher for a quarter and with no grade lower than a C will, with parental permission, receive Open Study for the next quarter. Students with Open Study are allowed the freedom to study anywhere on campus when they are not in class, but they are expected to maintain a study-like aspect. Failure to do so will result in the loss of the Open Study privilege. Any student with Open Study first period of the day is expected to check-in with the Director of Student Services (currently Bonnie Campbell). Open Study is a privilege and may be revoked at any time for disciplinary reasons.

Lockers

Lockers are Rivermont property and a random search, at any time and without prior notice, of a student's locker and/or any other item in a student's possession may occur when a member of the faculty or administration has reason to believe that a disciplinary infraction or the existence of physical or other potential harm

to the student or others will be discovered. Students should never give out their locker combination to other students, even those they consider “best friends.”

Supplies

A list of supplies needed for 6th–8th grade can be found on the Rivermont website (www.rvmt.org), under the “Parents” tab. This list is updated each year. Students in 9th-12th will be informed by teachers once classes start of any special supplies needed.

Co-Curricular Activities & Special Events

A number of co-curricular activities and events are offered for Rivermont students. These vary from year to year based on student interest. A representative list is shown below:

- Math Bee Team
- Math Counts
- Spelling Bee (grades 4-8)
- Geography Trivia Bee (grades 4-8)
- State Science & Technology Fair of Iowa (SSTFI)
- Environmental Club
- Computer Club
- World Cultures Club
- National Honor Society
- National Jr. Honor Society
- Middle & Upper School Student Council
- Yearbook
- Middle & Upper School Cheerleading
- Middle & Upper School Volleyball
- Middle & Upper School Basketball
- Middle School Track
- National History Day Competition
- Fall & Spring Play Productions
- American Players Theatre (APT) Trip
- River Bend Foodbank Student Hunger Drive
- Concordia Language Camp

For students with a particular athletic or other extracurricular interest not available at Rivermont, there is the opportunity to participate in programs at another school or institution, generally Bettendorf High School.

WHOM TO ASK

Academic concerns or questions	The classroom or subject teacher
Early & Lower School.....	Sue Johnson, ext. 335, johnson@rvmt.org
College Counseling	Bonnie Campbell, ext. 304, campbell@rvmt.org
Graduation Requirements.....	Bonnie Campbell, ext. 304, campbell@rvmt.org
Middle & Upper School	The student's advisor
Middle & Upper School.....	Rick St. Laurent, ext. 310, stlaurent@rvmt.org
Administration	Rick St. Laurent, ext. 310, stlaurent@rvmt.org
Admission	Cindy Murray, ext. 302, murray@rvmt.org
Annual Fund	Bonnie Campbell, ext. 304, campbell@rvmt.org
Athletics	Ed Knupp, ext. 404, knupp@rvmt.org
Attendance	
Report an absence:	
Early & Lower School.....	Tammi Burrell, ext. 337, burrell@rvmt.org
Middle & Upper School.....	Brittany Marietta, ext. 301, marietta@rvmt.org
Request an unexcused absence:	
Early & Lower School	Sue Johnson, ext. 335, johnson@rvmt.org
Middle & Upper School	Rick St. Laurent, ext. 310, stlaurent@rvmt.org
Billing (Tuition, textbook, lunch).....	Marsha Field, ext. 309, field@rvmt.org
Development & Fundraising.....	Drew Boster, ext. 306, boster@rvmt.org
Rentals	Jen Bernard, ext. 315, bernard@rvmt.org
Student Concerns	The classroom or subject teacher or advisor
Early & Lower School	Sue Johnson, ext. 335, johnson@rvmt.org
Middle & Upper School	Ed Knupp, ext. 404, knupp@rvmt.org or Monica Weeks, ext. 418, weeks@rvmt.org
Tuition Assistance	Jen Bernard, ext. 315, bernard@rvmt.org
Transportation	
Daily Bus Route	Sue Johnson, ext. 335, johnson@rvmt.org
Billing.....	Marsha Field, ext. 309, field@rvmt.org
Volunteering	Parents' Council

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